

The most pleasant

HISTORY

OF

Ornatus and Artelia.

Wherein is contained the unjust
Reign of *Them* King of

PHRYGIA.

Who with his son *Leues* intending Or-
natus his death, right Heir to the Crown,
was afterwards slain by his own Servants and
Ornatus after many extreame miseries
Crowned King.

Newly Corrected and Amended.



London Printed by B. A. dwelling in *Grub-street* near the
Upper-Pump 1650.

Medicine for Loue

Y R O T S I H
Hard fare will furnish Loue
If that will not succeed
Signs and long absences
~~will do the same~~
Will impart the good
Virtue Others Bealities
If that will not speed
Then take a rather
that will do the Deed





TO THE RIGHT

Worshipfull Bryan Stapleton of Carleton,
in the County of York Esquire, the Heavens
grant Health, content, and after life eternall word
Happinesse,

His unpolished History (Right Worship-
full) wanting the Ornament of Elo-
quence, presenteth it self in his naturall
and self expressing form, in wel applied
words, not in tedious borrowed phrases,
wherein neither the lewd can find examples to fitt
their dispositions, the vertuous no reasons to discon-
tent them, nor the well affected any cause of offence.
Here you shall see Lust Tyrannize, Avarice guilty of
murther, and dignity seeking his content and usurpa-
tion, yet all subverted by vertue. Which I am bold to
present unto you; not for the worth, but to expresse
my good will, which is not unmindefull in some sort
to gratifie the manifold courtesies I have received of
you. And although it be altogether not worth estima-
tion, and to be accounted no requitall for so many
good turns; yet I desire you to accept the same in
stead of a better, and the sum of that which my ability
at this time can afford: Which being but a fancy,
vouchsafe to esteem, though not agreeing with your
gravity,

The Epistle Dedicatory

gravity yet (as many both noble and wise in such like matters have done) to be read for recreation. As the value of the gift expresth not the affection of the giver, nor the outward shew the inward meaning: so I trust you will esteem my good will, not by the worthinesse thereof, but the quality of my well affected intent, which is devoted to you in the bonds of perfect good will, and will be ready to shew it self constant in any tryall you shall make thereof: And for that I know your wisdom and curtesie to be such, as that you wil not misconceive me, but esteem wel hereof, & my affection to you to be exprest in the Dedicatory, I have adventured to Dedicate the same to your protection, though altogether undeserving the title of your Patronage, which your further kindneses shall bind me hereafter to requite the same with some worthier work, collected by my labors.

Thus being loath to be tedious and troublesome unto you, I commit this silly Present to your acceptation, and your self to the gracious protection of the Almighty.

*Your Worships most ready
at command.*

Emanuel Foord.

The

THE EPISTLE to the Reader.



Entlemen, I have published this History, at the
intreaty of some of my familiar friends, being at
the first collected with no intent to have it prin-
ted, for as yet having taken but one flight, I durst
not too boldly venture again, lest my unskilfulness
might cause my repentance. But being supported
by the assistance of your gentle favours, I shall grow hardie, and
hereafter labor to procure your further delight: the reward I ex-
pect being your kind acceptance. But if contrary to my thought,
this summer fruit be gathered before it be ripe, I promise amends
with old fruit, that hath been a year in ripening, and in the begin-
ning of next winter coming forth. In the mean time peruse this
Historie, which savoureth more of pleasure, than eleguence, and
although hastily compiled, yet let it passe under your favourable
censure, and by your courtesies, be shrowded from the variable dis-
likes of Momus vain imitators.

The learned, wise, and courteous, wil according to the qualitie
of their dispositions, esteem well of this unworthie work, valuing
the same not by the worth, but the will of the writer. As for such
as either rashlie condemn without judgement, or lavishlie dislike
without advise, I esteem them like the down of Thistles, inconstan-
tly dispersed with every blast, accounting their discontent my
content: not caring to please those that are pleased with nothing.
But did my gains countervail my labors, I would then frame my
fancy to fit their humors, but getting nothing, I can loose no lesse,
only to have a good opinion of the well affected to learning, is all I
crave: and that I hope your good minds will afford.

To the Reader.

As at a banquet there are severall kind of meats, some pleasant and others sharp, yet all tasted. Amongst Grapes, some sour, some sweet, yet all esteemed, so with indifferency, amongst variety of eloquent Histories, let this serve as one dish to furnish out a banquet, and like sour and sweet intermingled, make a pleasant tast, by your courteous construing of my good meaning; and your favourable opinion of Ornatus. So shall I account my debt to you great; my labor well bestowed, and my self bound to requitte your kinde esse. You shall see your affection to learning, verine in favouring good indeavours, and give encouragement to more worthy labors, I rest wel contented, my reward rich, and hereafter be both ready and willing to deserve your courtesie.

But if Ornatus have breed my blame, as it, bred his banishment, then may I wish I had never known hercof, and cry out of Mala fortuna for my reward. With the bird Celos bred in Affricca who wandering far from her nest, by forgetfulnesse cannot return: and so for ever after abandoneth company. So I too boldly building on your courtesie, may be wounded with repentance: and by my ever sighs brought into despair, unless your courtesie prevent the same on which my hopes depend. And I cease.

E. FOORD

THE

The most pleasant History of
ORNATVS
 AND
ARTEZIA.

CHAP. I.

How Ornatus became enamoured of the fair Artezia.



IN the rich and renowned country of Phrygia, in provinces near adjacent to each other, dwelt two ancient knights, the one named Allius, the other named Arbastus, men of great possessions & much honored. Betwixt whom such extreme contention and hatred remained, by reason of the death of one Renon, brother to Allius, long since slain in a quarrel by certain Gentlemen belonging to Arbastus, that neither their own wisdom, nor

the sundry persuasions of friends to either party allied, were of any force to mitigate the same. Both of them being enriched with innumerable blessings especially in their fair progeny.

Allius had a Sonne of goodly stature, and commendable gifts, named Ornat. And Arbastus a daughter, called Artezia of exceeding comeliness, exteriorly beautified with abundance of

The most pleasant History of

gifts of nature, and inwardly adorned with abundance of divine perfections. Yet by reason of their Parents discord, they remained as such ignorant in knowledge one of the other, as if they had beene separated by an innumerable distance of Countries.

Ornatus above all things delighted in Hawking, and on a day being weary he wandred without company with his hawk on his fist into a most pleasant valley, where he shadowed himself under the shadow of a tuft of green trees, with purpose to rest himself, and even when his eyes were ready to yeeld to slumber, he was roused from his drowsinesse by the noise of a kennell of hounds, that past by him in chase of a Stagge after whom Arbastus and others in his company (though to him unknown) followed, who being passed by, whilst he was in a deep slay, to think what they should be, he espied a beautifull damzell entring the same valley, who being somewhat weary, liking the prospect of that shady tuft of trees, alighted there, which Ornatus seeing, withdrew himself, from her sight, whilst she tying her steed to a bush, laid her delicate body down upon the cooling earth, to refresh her self, and dry up her sweat, which she sooner to accomplish she unlaced her garments and with a decent and comely behaviour, discovered her milk white neck and breast beautified with two round pretious teats to receive the breath of the cool wind, which was affected with a delight to exhale the moistned vapors from her pure body. Ornatus seeing all, and unseen himself, moved with a delight each perfect linament of her proper body, beauty, sweet savour, and other comeliness, which filled his heart with exceeding pleasure, and grew into an unrestrained affection towards her, and a great study what he should be, when suddenly his hawk feeling his immovable, thinking to perch, did with quiet pounce her self, and having taken wing with the maits of her wings made Artelia start, who as one half agast, with a fearful behavior rose from the ground looking round about her from whence that sound came, she espied Ornatus, who unwilling she should perceiue he had seen her lay as if he had slept, Artelia marvelling what he should be, and after some thinking

thinking he had slept, closed her naked breast with great haste, and unlocking her horse, thought to go away unespied. Which Ornatus perceiving, and unwilling without speaking to her to lose her sight, started to awake, and raising himself, steadfastly beheld her, which infused such a red vermilion blush into her beautifull cheeks, and withall such a bashfull confusion spread it self in her conceits, that she stood like one half amazed and ashamed.

Which Ornatus perceiving, drew towards her, and greeted her with these speeches. Fair Damsel be not abashed with my presence though a stranger, who shall no way if (I can chuse) offend you, but rather command me and I will be ready to do you any service. Arctia notwithstanding his speeches, withdrew her self aside, leaving her horse to a bank where with ease she mounted, and so rode away, not giving him any answer at all.

Ornatus marvelled thereat, yet rightly imputed her unkind departure to her fear, not discourtesie. And seeing himself deprived of her sight, and the night approaching, he departed home to his fathers house.

After Supper, betaking himself to his chamber, with intent to rest he was possessed with such remembrance of the beautifull damsell he had seen, that his sleep was transformed into continuall cogitations of her beauty, and the pleasant sight he had seen in the discovery of some of her hidden features imprinted such a delight in his affectionate conceits that he could take no sleep, but he continued all that night in those meditations.

The next day, thinking to shake off all further remembrance of her, he got him into the company of his most chosen friends, where in besoyetime he took most delight, yet now by reason of his distemperature, he rather seemed weary than merry. He had not continued long with them, but he was saluted by a Gentleman named Rhylas, with whom he was familiarly acquainted. This Gentleman belonged to an ancient Duke named Turnus, who this day solempnized the honour of his birth day, from which Allinus excused himself of purpose, because he thought he should meet Arbastus there, wherefore because the Duke should take no offence at him, he granted that his son Ornatus should go to do him honour.

The most pleasant History of

Which Phylastes acquainted Ornatus withall, who glad thereof, departed thither in company of diuers other Gentlemen: the duke likewise had sent another Messenger to request Arbastus company, who being of a more mild nature then Allinus, willingly went, and with him his Lady, and fair daughter Artesia.

CHAP. II.

How Ornatus came to the knowledge of Artesia, and intreated Adellent to make knowne his Love to her, and of the rebuke Artesia gave her.



After the Feast was ended, and the Duke had honoured his guests with all manner of courtesie, he and the principallest, among whom Arbastus was one of the chief, according to the custome used in the Countrey, seated themselves to behold certain Games and exercises, to be performed by the young Gentlemen: which was running, wrestling, and diuers other exercises for tryall of the strength and nimblenesse of the body: among the rest, Ornatus (having neuer before made tryall of himself) had such good successe, and behaved himself with such agility and strength, that he won the chiefest honour, and was presented before the Duke, to receive a rich reward.

Which when he had receiued, casting his eyes upon the beholders, he espied Artesia, whom he perfectly knew again, ready to depart with her Parents, who had bidden the Duke farewell. Ornatus continuing to Phylastes, asked if he knew that Damzell, shewing him Artesia, who told him what she was.

Ornatus was glad of that small knowledge, which could add little more to his hopes, yet somewhat discontented, that she was daughter to Arbastus. And thus the day being ended, every one departed to their abodes.

Ornatus having again attained his Chamber, spent his time of rest in sundry cogitations of his love, and how he might haue known

Ornatus and Artesia.

knowledge of his affection, noting every danger, and pondering how discontentedly his parents would take the same, if it should by any means come to their knowledge, he apprehended so many lets to hinder him, that he was oftentimes in utter despair of attaining to the least hope of good successe. But finding his affection to increase more and more, and burning with a fervent desire, which nothing but only her favour could extinguish, he passed away many melancholy hours labouring by all means possible to arrive to the accomplishment of his desires.

After that night was past, early the next morning, he wandered towards the place where he had beheld her with such exceeding content, and by the way as he went, he met with a Gentlewoman, named Adellena, of mean birth, and small living, yet of good education, who oftentimes resorted to Arbastus house, and was going thither at that instant, into whose company he insinuated himself, for that he saw her alone, and said as followeth.

Gentlewoman, I am bold to intreat a word or two with you. Sir (replied she) with a good will. I will satisfie you in what I can. Know you not (quoth he) Arbastus? I do (quoth she) both know him and am very well acquainted with him, unto whose house I am now going. So would I (quoth he) if I durst; for I serve Ornatus, son to Allinus, whom I do not doubt but you know well, of whom I will tell you more, but that I fear to commit his secrets to them I know not, and thereby unwillingly do him injury: but would you vouchsafe but to hear them, and to keep them secret, and withall, add your help for to further them, which you may with safety perform you should do him an exceeding pleasure, and withall be so highly rewarded, and thankfully gratified, that you shall think your labour very well employed, do a deed of pitty, and bind him in perpetual bands of kind love and friendship.

Sir (replied Adellena) I know not the Gentleman, yet I have heard him very much commended, whom if I could any way pleasure, I would use both diligence and secrecie, promising you, upon my faith and credit, if you will make me acquainted with your mind, I will either do my good will to further him, or else conceal what you shall commit to my pitty.

The most pleasant History of

Then said he, my master not long since walking in yonder valley beheld Artelia, faire Artelia, Daughter to Arbathus, to whose beauty he is so exceedingly inthralled, that unlesse some means of comfort bee found to ease his torments, I fear we it will endanger his life: whom you only may pleasure by making his love knowne to her, in such sort as shall best agree with your wisdom. This is all, and yet so much, that the revealing thereof may do much harm, And to effect such a contract, might procure peace and unity betwixt their Parents. Therefore I entreat your aid and furtherance herein: with which good news, if I return to him, I know it will breed no little comfort to his disquieted heart.

Sir, said she, since I perceibe his love is groundd upon vertue not drawn thereto by any desire of reward, I undertake to be his assistant herein, and will to the uttermost of my best endeavours, labour to procure his content, which this day I will in some part put in execution. And if you return to me to morrow, you shall know her answer, I will (said he) and so they departed.

Qmarus having left her entred into many cogitations of this rash attempt, accounting himself over credulous to commit his secrets to her privacy of whose fidelity he had never made triall, sometimes comforting himself with hope of good event and again despairing of comfort for that he supposed, Artelia would rather esteem him as an enemy then as a friend; by reason of their parents hatred and therefore would the more hardly be drawn to give any credit to his sute. And revolving a Chaos of these & such like confused cogitations, hee attained his fathers house thinking the time tedious untill his appointed meeting with Adellena, who after her departure from him soon arrived at Arbathus house mistaking her self as she had formerly done yet careful how to evade the charge she had in hand (which she could by no occasion utter till after dinner) she found Artelia all alone in the garden, & having invited herself into her company, which Artelia kindly accepted, she entred into variety of discourses, and continued sometime in giving certain heards their proper names, amongst the rest

Artelia

Arteſia ſpying an hearb with party colour'd leaues; demanded of Adellena if ſhe knew the name thereof, which ſhe told her, ſhe did not. I haue oftentimes quoth Arteſia) ſeen this hearb, and it hath two pretty names, it is by ſome called Love in Idleneſſe, and by ſome Hearts eaſe: with that Adellena ſetcht a deep though counterſeit ſigh, which Arteſia noting ſaid: What maketh you ſigh to hear it named Hearts eaſe? Harry (quoth ſhe) one way, becauſe thoſe two names ſo ill agree: another, ſoꝛ by the ſame I call to remembrance the hearts grief I heard a young man complain of, procured by love which was not in Idleneſſe, but I think in good earneſt. Why quoth Arteſia can love procure ſuch hearts grief to any, and not rather content? Yes ſaid ſhe, becauſe the party in love, hath no hope to attain the good liking of the party he loveth. Then quoth Arteſia, I account him a fool, that wil love ſo deeply without hope of reward, and that to bee rather fondneſſe then true friendship, where affections are placed with ſuch inequalities. But I pray tell mee, what is hee into whole ſecrets you were ſo ſuddenly admitted? Not admitted (quoth ſhe) oꝛ unawares I heard his complaints, which afterwards, I promiſed him not to make any acquainted withall, but the party whom he ſo intirely loveth. Then (quoth Arteſia) I may not know neither do I care, ſoꝛ it is but a vanity that troubleth ones cogitations. Yes (quoth ſhe) you may, and ſhall if you pleaſe, know who hee is conditionally, you will neither be offended with me, ſoꝛ telling you, nor reveal what I ſhall impart. Why quoth ſhe againe, I the party oꝛ doth it any way concern me, that I ſhould be acquainted with it? It it be, then keep your counſels unrevealed, ſoꝛ it will be too ſorry to my ſtorm, ſoꝛ be it far from me, to be troubled with the vain ſutes of doſting lovers: yet let me know (qd. Adellena) you hear too grievous a conceit of love, which in the diſtine party where by hearts are united in vertue, without the which, neither man nor cat can attain heauen, nor other creatures have their being; therefore not to be abhoyred: and ſoꝛ that any ſhould love your ſelf, can that be any offence to you, but rather be accepted in kind ſoꝛ we ſhould by nature love them that love us, then will you be contrary to nature, yeeld hatred ſoꝛ love? For you indeed are the party

The most pleasant History of

party that is beloved, and the party that is so far in love with you every way to be commended, whose name, I will not reveal, and then I hope I shall breed no offence to your eares. Do so (quoth Artelia, for concealing the same you will please me, and if you will be welcome into my company use no more of these speeches. Had I thought (quoth she) they would have been offensive, I would not have uttered them, but in so doing, I did but fulfill your request: then at my request again (quoth she) give over. After this communication ended, they parted, Adellena home to her house, and Artelia to her supper, and afterwards to her chamber, where at first, some cold thoughts of these speeches, past in her fancy, but afterwards she spent the rest of that night in quiet sleep.

CHAP. III.

How Adellena conveyed Ornatus letter into Artesias Casket, and with what inpatientie Artelia took the same.

The Morning being newly approached, Ornatus who had so long expected the same, arose and soone got to Adellenas house, where hee arrived before she was up, who having knowledge thereof, soone came down to him, (taking him to be no other then Ornatus his man) to whom she declared the very truth of all her speeches had with Artelia. Which mipt him at the heart: but receiving some hope by her perswasions, he came with a purse full fraught with Gold, in recompence of her paines past, and to entice her to undertake more, he said as followeth. Good Adellena, be not dismayed to prosecute my suite, for Artelia is first frown, for I am not Ornatus man, but poor Ornatus selfe.

himself, that languish with desire to attain her love, which I would my self prosecute, if the discords between our parents did not hinder the same. Therefore, I beseech you once again do something in my behalf, for you see how cruell destiny hath shut me from all means to be put in paradise by my self, and you may pleasure me without any hazard at all: for which I wil rest so thankful unto you, as that you shal account your pains taken well bestowed.

Sir, replied she, I would undertake any thing to further you if I knew which way, but I perceiue Arteliaes sorrow, nesse is such, that nothing I shall bring her will be welcome: but if you wil advise me what I shall do, I wil once again hazard the losse of her good liking for your sake. Which said, Ornatus wrote a Letter, which he desired her by some means to conuey to her sight, the contents whereof were these.

To the fairest Artelia,

FAirest of creatures, be not offended with my boldnesse, but rather favourably censure of my good meaning; for being bound to honour none but most vertuous, I thought it my duty to giue you knowledge thereof, desiring you to pittie the extremity of my passions, procured by the attainder of your conquering perfections. I confesse you may alledge many things, as reasons to disswade you from giving credit to my speeches, or yielding me the least favour in your conceits: yet I beseech you, make but triall of my loyalty, love, and duty, so farre as shall agree with your liking, and you shall find me constant in the one and perseverant in the other, as one that hath submitted himselfe to your command, vowed his deuotions to purchase your favor, and everlastingly bound himselfe to be only yours, unable to express my humble melting, unwilling to be offensive, and desirous of favor. I beseech you to be favorable to me, though bearing the name of an enemy; in whom you shall find the true heart of a constant friend, whose safety comfort and preservation, reflect in your power. The first view of your
C beauty

The most pleasant History of

beauty (which was in the valley when you were last hunting) surprized my heart with such humble regard to your vertues, that ever since my heart hath indured the bitter torments of fearfull despair, which urgeth me to this presumption, desiring from your sacred lips to receive my sentence of comfort or affliction, rather then to spend my life in languishing by an unrevealed torment. Then be you gracious to him, that is otherwise most miserable, and shew favour to an undeserving unknowne friend: so shall you not only shew, that you are mercifull, but also save a miserable Lover from utter ruine.

Your humble friend,

Ornatus.

Adellena having received this Letter, told him, she would deliver the same: which the next day she performed in this sort. Being come to Arbastus house, she continued most part of the day in Artesiaes company, not once renning the least remembrance of the talk she had with her the day before: but espying her open her Casket, wherein she put her work whilest Artesia was busie, she privily conveyed the letter, unscen, into the same, which by and by Artesia locked so; none but her self had the use thereof.

Adellena thought long till she was gone, fearing least Artesia should upon some occasion open the Casket again, and so find the Letter while she was there; therefore she soon found means to depart. When the time of rest was come, and Artesia alone in her Bed, taking a Book (according to her usual manner) to read a while, she suddenly fell asleep, and in her sleep was possessed with a dream, wherein her thoughts called to remembrance Adellenaes speeches, which moved such a disquiet conceit of anger in her Breast, that thinking she had chid her, with the motions of her spirit she awaked, feeling a distemperature in all her parts

and seeing the light still burning she marvelled at her Drowsiness, that had before forgot to put the same out, and by this means called to remembrance Adellemes speeches, marvelling what he should be that was so in love with her, and suddenly again reproving her self for giving her mind liberty to think of love, she would have banisht all further remembrance thereof out of her mind: but the more she laboured, the more unable she was to prevail in over-mastring her fancies, that being both vexed with her self and Adellena, she uttered these speeches.

What disquiet is this possesseth my heart, and procureth such unwonted cogitations to rise in my fancies and disturbeth my rest? I was not wont to trouble my thoughts with such vain cogitations, which the more I labour to suppress, the more they increase.

Could Adellemes speeches have such force which I had well nigh forgotten) as thus long to stick in my remembrance? O, what reason have I to regard them, that were not worth the regarding, but rather tended to demonstrate the affection of some over-fond lover, that seeketh to entrap my Chastity? Accursed be her lips for uttering them, and would to God I had been deaf, that I might not have heard their enchanting sound.

This said, she catcht up her Book, thinking by reading, to drive away all remembrance thereof, but her heart was so fully possess'd with a kind of cogitation, what he should be, that she neither could read or when she had read remember what she did read: and finding this means not available, she started from her bed, opening the Casket to take out her Sampler, wherein she took most delight, when suddenly she espied the Letter, and reading the superscription, was half astonish'd thereat, especially how it should come there, and what the contents should be, being oftentimes to in vain tear the same in pieces, and not to read it, which her heart would not suffer her to do, therefore she had seen what was the contents: yet striving to overcome her affections, she tare the same in the middle:

The most pleasant History of

which done, such a remorse rose in her fancy, united with a desire to know further thereof, that leaping into the bed, she closed the same together, and betwixt a willing and unwilling mind, read the same throughout. With that, fetching a deep sigh, she said: *Al my poor soul, how are my affections betrayed to mine enemy: was it Ornatus she meant? can it be, that he will prove my friend, that is my professed enemy? No: he intendeth nothing lesse then love, but rather under colour thereof seeketh my ruine.* *Was it he, that I beheld in the valley? or is it possible he should be so deeply in love with me, upon that small sight? No, no; I will not credit his speeches but still repute him as an enemy, as indeed he is; and henceforth abandon Adellenaes company, by whose means this letter was conveyed into my Casket: then tearing the same into a thousand pieces, she abstained (so near as she could) from all thought of yielding the least consent to love, and sought to increase her disdain and suspect of his falshood, spending the rest of that night in confused contrarities of doubtfull thoughts.* Early in the morning she gat up, and within short time met with Adellena (who was come, and desirous to know what issue her device had taken) and finding occasion fit when none was by, she uttered these speeches.

Adellena, I marvell what folly ruleth your mind, that you (whom I had thought had been so virtuously given) should seek my ruine: wherein have I shewn my self so discourteous, that you should requite me in this discourteous sort? You remember the speeches past betwixt us the other day in the Garden, when I finding out your intent by your speeches, desired you to give over to use any more talk to that effect; which you faithfully promised, but now most unfaithfully have broken, and moze impudently have betrayed my quiet with your disquiet, and ill-sounding news: if your rudenesse hath been such, that you could not desist, you might then have delivered Ornatus false and feigned enchantment into my hands, and not so secretly have conveyed the same into my Casket: wherein you have made me amends for my love, to seek to betray my life into

Ornatus and Artesia.

into the hands of mine enemy: for otherwise, I neither can nor will esteeme him. Therefore henceforwards come no more into my company, for I forswear your familiarity, hate your counsell, and wil cause my father banish you his house, and alienate his friendship from you for ever.

Adellena would have answered: but Artesia refusing to hear her, departed, and left her so much grieved, that for extreame vocation she immediately departed towards her own house.

CHAP. III.

How Ornatus despairing, left his fathers house, and disguising himself was entertained of Arbastus.



Ornatus desirous to hear how Artesia had accepted his letter, came to Adellenas house, and found her weeping for anger: desiring to know the cause thereof, which she declared to him at large: which wrought such an exceeding passion of grief in his mind, y^e without yielding her either thanks for her pains, or other speech he departed, being so much overcome with inward sorrow, that finding a solitary place, he laid himself down upon the earth, uttering these lamentations,

O miserable Catise! what hast thou to do, but lament, when thy ill fortune yeelds nothing but cause of lamentation? Why should thy life last to endure these torments, and not rather to dissolve into unseasoned essences? Could any thing have happened to me more miserable, then to behold Artesia, & now to endure her cruelty? or more fortunate, if she had been mercifull? But my Destinies have ordained me, to like her that hateth me, and to become a thral to a cruell unrelenting enemy. Well, my love is sweeter then my life, and therefore I will venture life and all, to purchase her liking.

The most pleasant History of

Habinz said this, he a while sate silent, when suddenly to favour his extremities he beheld certain of his familiars passe by, with whom he departed home.

Early the next morning being exceedingly troubled in mind and impatient of delay, he left his fathers house to visit Adellena againe, whom he had the day before left so unkindly: whom he found ready to go to Arbastus house, and saluting her said. Adellena be not offended at my last unmannerly departure; for my heart was so much disquieted at the ill successe my sute took, that I could not use that behaviour towards you, your pains deserved: but now, I am returned to crave your counsell what is further to be done herein.

Sir, replied she. I know not what further means to use, neither dare I any more attempt to try Arcteshaes courttesie; who is already so much offended with me, that I fear to loose her friendship for ever, if I should utter that again that is so unwelcome to her.

Ornatuſ hearing her speeches, thought she was unwilling to prosecute his sute any further, and with a heavy heart left her, entering into many thoughts, which way to comfort himself, oftentimes bitterly despairing, and yet purposing to leave no means untried, nor danger unattempted, though with hazard of his life to purchase somerest to his troubled heart.

At length he thought with himself, What should make Arctesha so hard-hearted, as to give no credit to my speeches? it is not her want of lenity, pittie, or wisdom: for she is young, and therefore subject to love; beautifull, and therefore to be won; wise, and therefore will with consideration pittie my sorrows. What then, should alienate her good liking from me more then from another? My name; for by that, she reputeth me an enemy: then were I not Ornatuſ she would peradventure give some regard to my sute. Therefore, I will change my name and be another then I am, that she not knowing me, may (if not love me) yet desire to hate me. Then began he to study, what means to use to enjoy her
sight

Ornatus and Artesia.

sight (without the which, he could not live) yet not be known what he was. Amongst many other devices, this took deepest root. Within few days after (having provided all things necessary) he attired himself like a virgin of a strange country (which he might well be esteemed to be, by his youth) and taking with him his Lute wherupon he could play exceedingly well, in the silent of the night, he departed towards the Sea-coast, which was neer unto Arbastus house. and seating himself upon the rocks he began to play upon his Lute. Early the next morning a Shepheard hapned to passe by that way, and espying his strange disguise, and hearing his sweet Musick, was so exceedingly delighted therewith, that he staid to see what he was.

Ornatus turning himself about espied the old man, and gazing upon him; wherewith he drew towards him & said as followeth.

Good Father wuse not to see me in this unfrequented place being by Shipwreck cast on this shore, and preserved from a grievous death by sea to perish for want of comfort on the land in a strange place, where I neither have friends, nor know which way to get comfort: Wherefore I beseech you, yeeld comfort to my distresse, and succour to my want. Fair damzell (quoth the Shepheard if my homely Cottage can yeeld you any comfort, so please you to accept thereof, it shall be at your command whither so please you go, without more circumstance of speeches, you shall be most heartily welcome. I thank you (quoth Ornatus, and I accept your gentle proffer: so they departed together. and when they were entred and the Shepheardesse in the best manner she could, had welcommed him, and he had tasted of such food as was set before him, he told them, his name was Silvia, telling a tale of sufficient countenance to bear credit, of the manner of their Shipwreck, and the cause he undertook that voyage by sea: Which the old folks believed. Likewise framing himself to such a kind of behaviour, that it was almost impossible to discern, but that he was a Woman indeed.

Where

The most pleasant History of

Where Silvia (for under that name he shall a while passe) stayed some two dayes, yet without any hope how to enjoy Ar-tesiaes company. But the third day it fortuned Arbastus being abroad in hunting, was by a violent storm driven to seek shelter, and most fortunately lighted on the Shepheards Cottage: where he bold ly entred without calling, and suddenly espying Silvia, was half astonished to behold a damzell so beautifull and richly attyred, in that homely place: but after that he had a while viewed her well (Silvia being alone) with a courteous behaiour he thus spake.

Fair Damzell, pardon my boldnesse, if I haue disquieted you: I little thought to haue found such guests in this homely place. Silvia knowing him to be Arbastus, arose, but made him no answer: when presently the old Shepheard came in, asking great reverence to Arbastus: who demanded of him, what damzell that was: Whereupon the old man declared all that he knew.

Arbastus then thus said: Damzell, I understand by this Shepheard some part of your misfortunes, which I so much pittie, that I offer to do any thing reſteth in me, to do you pleasure: And for that this homely place is not agreeable to your birth, which may be greater then I can iudge of, let me desire you to accept of such entertainment, as my habitation yeeldeth, whither you shal be welcome. Silvia being glad of that proffer, yet fearing to be discovered by her willingness to yeild, made this answer: Sir, this homely place is best agreeing to my poore estate, being by my fortune brought to misery, which I am also unworthy of, for that I know not how to make my host amends, beſtiring rather to lye in this quiet place, void of care, then in places of more dignity: but for ſ I ſhal be too chargeable to this poore man, and you ſo earnestly desire me, I will be so bold as to take your proffer, though unable to be so grateful as I would. Many other speeches past betwixt them, and in the end they departed towards Arbastus Castle: where Silvia was kindly and worthily entertained, having his hearts desire, which was to enjoy the sight of fair Artesia.

Ornatus being alone by himself, began to meditate on the
 good successe he had in this attempt, and how fortunately all
 things had fallen out to further him in his love. But most
 of all he marvelled how the eyes of all that beheld him
 were blinded, & they could not perceive what he was. In these
 and many such like comfortable meditations, he spent some
 three or four days, taking such great content in beholding Ar-
 tesias perfections, that he was more and more enthralled in the
 bands of vowed affection. by hearing of her speech, noting her
 behavior, admiring her vertue, commending her courtesie, affec-
 ting her beauty & imprinting each lineament of her divine forme
 in his devoted affection, with such immoveable resolve of con-
 stant loyalty, that he did not only love her, but also honor her as
 an Idoll, being by Arbastus admitted her company. that at all
 times he was with her. Artesia likewise took no little pleasure
 in Silvias company, in whom so much courtesie abounded, that
 every one both liked and commended her.

CHAP. V.

How Adellena brought newes to Arbastus house of Ornatus sudden
 departure. How he naming himself Silvia, a long time enjoyed her
 company, and what successe he had in his love.



Adellena having heard of Ornatus depar-
 ture from his fathers house, and of the
 exceeding grief and care his parents took,
 fearing least he might by some treachery
 be murdered, she brought the newes to
 Arbastus house, and soon published the
 same, which came to Arbastus his hear-
 ing, who was exceedingly sorry to hear the same, so that
 he esteemed well of Ornatus. And now comming into
 the garden, where Artesia was walking with Silvia, Adellena
 could

The most pleasant History of

withhold her self from speaking, but uttered her mind in these
words.

Artelia be not offended with what I say, but rather be dis-
pleased with your self, who are the originall of this woe.
Ornatus whom you supposed your enemy, though indeed your
most faithfull friend, taking your unkind refusall most
heavily, and accounting himself not worthy to live if you des-
pised him, either hath wrought his own untimely death, or
dyspairing to find favour at your hands, hath abandoned both
his Parents, country, and acquaintance, to live in exile.
What will be said of you, when the cause of his sorrow shall
be known: how may your own conscience accuse your self
of hard-heartednesse, that would not yet be pittie to the distress
of so worthy, vertuous, and courteous a Gentleman, who for
his humble suit, was spightfully disdaind, and his hearty
good will disdainfully rejected: Which cruell deed of yours,
no doubt will one day be repayed with the like disdain, where
you shall most affect. I know his love was firm, constant,
and immoevable, which maketh me so much the more pittie
his estate: I know his meaning was both honourable and
vertuous; his birth you know: what vertues abounded in
him, all can witnesse, and how heartily he loved you the hea-
vens can witnesse. Now Ornatus farewell: Hard was thy
hap to place thy true love so firmly, where thou reapedst so lit-
tle reward. Artelia hearing her speeches, could not tell whether
she might blame her, or accuse her self: sometimes doubting
whether she spake this of policy to try her, or of truth, being as
ready to blame her, as to excuse her self, sometimes doubting re-
ther: For she thought if she spake true she had good cause to say
that she did, and her self more to be blamed then any. For
notwithstanding she had given Adellena so flat a deniall, yet
her conscience breake, that some sparks of love were kindled in
her breast. Insomuch that her heart being somewhat moved
in these thoughts, caused the water to stand in her eye. Ornatus
seeing all this, took no little comfort thereat, especially when he
perceivd Artelias heart to relent: but by reason of this dis-
guise, being known for no other then a woman, he kept silence.

when Iain he would haue spoken, but feared least he should discover himself. Adellena seeing she had disguised Artelia, being her self full of grief, and unwilling to lodge any further, departed. And Artelia withdrawing her self from Siluius company, into an Arbour, uttered these speeches: And thus it be, that Ornatuſ love was ſo great; that for my ſake he hath done this: Could he love her ſo conſtantly, that was his proſcribed enemy: is love of ſuch a force to draw one into theſe extreames: When may I compare it to the heart Artas found in Perſia, which being but holden in the hand, caueth a heat throughout all the body: ſo love, but entertained in thought ſilkeneth all the ſenſes. But why do I conceive ſo well of Ornatuſ, when I know not the truth of Adellenaes report: it may be he hath hired her to do this, and thereby I may be deceived, yielding to pitty when there is no cauſe, and with the Bird Akanthus, ready to come at every call. Alas it were ſo, I am not bound to ſavour him: for ſo he my enemy, and ſon to my fathers chiefſt foe: What reaſon then have I either to give credit to his love, or her profeſſation, when both may be feigned: Well, I will be aſſiſed, before I yield my ſelf to love, in ſuch long haire, and before I love, I will know whom I love. But Artelia the fancy yeeldeth he may be already, and the conſcience bids thee pitty him becauſe he loveth thee, for love ſir a reputed enemy, may be as conſtant and loyall as in an open friend, and an enemy becoming a friend will be the more conſtant: then what haſt thou to do but make further proof of his conſtancy: and ſtanding how true yeeld remaine to his ſervice: for Artelia ſhall not ſo far grant he be conſtant, loyall, and love thee ſo untruly, yet now thou haſt made him ſo ſake his country, and peradventure haſt procured his untimely death, there is nothing left to be done for thee but to pitty his death: and ſeeke the leaſt of this great diſcomforthe. All this told Ornatuſ ſtanding ſtill ſelf from her ſight, by the thicknelle of the green leaues, heard her ſpeeches, to his exceeding comfort, and againe cloſely withdrew himſelf. Artelia having ended her ſpeeches, her heart being oppreſſed with many doubts, ſighs, and came to Silvia, to whom ſhe ſaid: My mind is much troubled with the newſ

The most pleasant History of

Adellena told me of Ornatuſs abſente, whom, ſo that you knowe not, I will tell you what he was.

There dwelleth not farre hence one Alliuſs, that moſtally hateth my father, and all that belong unto him, whoſe ſonne Ornatuſs was, whom if I ſhould commend, you might thinke me too cruell to reſuſe hiſ to be ſo unkindly, only thus much I will ſay of him, he was every way worthy to be beloved, though my fancy could never be drawn to like of him: who vpon what occaſion I knowe not, but as Adellena told mee, made hiſ love knowne unto her, which ſhe likewiſe told me of: but I reſuſing to heare her, answered her plainly, that I was greatly offended with her, for making any ſuch motion, and forbade her ſo ever to ſpeake of him againe. But now this day you haue heard what ſhe hath told me, which I can hardly believe to be true, or that Ornatuſs would be ſo raſh without wiſdome to enter into ſuch extremities. But if it be ſo (as I would it were not) it grieveth me for him, and I wiſh that I had not reſuſed to heare hiſ ſote, though I am not willing to yeeld thereto: for I would not haue it ſaid of me, nor haue my name ſo much blayed that my crueltie procured him that extremity, though hiſ wiſdome might haue choſen ſuch miſchiefe, and more moderately haue tempered hiſ love.

Ornatuſs taking occaſion ſaid: I neither knowe the Gentleman nor hold conſtant hiſ love was, but thus much my mind perſwadeſh me, that had not hiſ love bin great, he would not haue grieued ſo much at your unkindneſſe: but love is of this force, that it turneth the mind into extremities, or utterly beatech the heart: which force helike it had in him, elſe would he not haue done himſelfe ſo much harme. But it may be (as you ſay) Ornatuſs hath not done himſelfe outrage, but only abandoned company, lieth in diſpaire and ſo meaneth ſo: which if it be ſo, then in my fancy, you might doe well to let him by ſome meanes underſtand that you did pittie him. Stande there, quoth Arclia, you muſt firſt know, whether I can doe it, or no: ſo if I ſhould ſay, I pittie with my lips, and he not find it ſo it would drive him to more diſpaire: and therefore I will leave off to doe that, untill I can finde whether I can do it, or no.

The

Where her speeches vnto Ornatus into a perplexed doubt
 what to thinke, being no way assured of her loue, nor yet utter-
 ly despairing thereof: for that her speeches gave likelihood of
 both. Therefore he durst not speake too boldly, least she should
 suspect him, but only rested in good hope to find comfort, and by
 other meanes to try her.

There taking his Lute, he began to play so sweetly, as
 would haue raviſht a comfortlesse minde, with great content:
 to heare which Harmony, pleased Arctia so well, that when
 he left she would request him, calling him Sylvia, to play a-
 gaine. Whilst he sat playing, Arctia setting close by his
 side, fell fast asleep: which he perceiuing, left off his play, to
 surfet him'selfe with beholding her sweete beautie, in which he
 tooke such delight, as almost raviſht his senses; sometimes
 thinking whilst she slept, to imprint a kisse upon her sweet
 ruddie lippe: but fearing thereby to wake her, and lose that
 delightfu'l contemplation he desired: beholding each part of
 her visible fayme, which was most diuine, his minde was af-
 fected with inward contemplation, what perfection her hidden
 beauties did comprehend, which his fancy perswaded him, he
 did absolutely contemplate. Then seeing her stirre, he sudden-
 ly catcht his Lute againe, striking his sweet notes to conti-
 nue her in that slumber, and then againe laying by the same, to
 enter into his former contemplation, he compared his delight
 to exceed all heavenly ioy: and wishing, though Arctia could
 not love him, yet that she would alwayes grant him so to be-
 hold her.

When he had a good while continued in these meditationes,
 Arctia awakes, which somewhat grieues him: but when
 he beheld her beautilous eyes fixed upon him, he thought him-
 selfe enriched with a heavenly happinesse. To whom Arctia
 saide: I thank thee good Silua: for thy sweet spelle hath
 somewhat eased my heart, by this quiet sleepe. O, what con-
 tent do they enjoy, that liue void of care: and howe happie
 was I, before I heard Ornatus name: With that she a-
 rose, and they together went in: when night approached,
 which Ornatus thought to come to soone; for by that, he must

The most pleasant History of

hies fight) every one betook themselves to their severall lodgings.

Ornatus, studying what means to use, to further his love, wherein he found many difficulties: sometimes, in thinking Arctesia was in hope never to hear of him again, and sometimes supposing she did pittie him. And being overcome with contraries of doubts, he uttered these complaints:

What should I do to procure my content: when my desires are one way great, and my joies as exceeding; when my despair exceedeth, and yet my comfort aboundeth? I enjoy Arctesias love, and yet not her love; I enjoy her sight, and yet not her sight: I have as much comfort, as filleth me with joy, and yet I am desperate with despair. How can that be? She loveth me as I am Silvia, but hateth me, because she loveth not Ornatus: Under the name of Silvia, I enjoy her sight, but not as Ornatus; and so am I deprived of her sight: I reap exceeding comfort by beholding her beauty; but I live in despair, that she would shun love, if she knew what I were. Though I enjoy many things, by being Silvia, yet I am deprived of all comfort, as being Ornatus: For she deemeth him either dead, or fled, having no hope ever to see him: and if I should shew any sign that he were living, or near, she would presently eschew my company: which, being as I am, I may enjoy. And thus am I void of all means of attaining her love; yet living as I am, I shall still enjoy her love.

Why Ornatus thou hast better means to give her knowledge of thy love in this disguise, then if thou lovedst as Ornatus. Suppose thou shouldst make known to her what thou art, thinkest thou she would betray thee, considering thou offeredst no other behaviour towards her, then that which agreeth with vertue? Or what if she did betray thee? wert thou not better to endure the greatest extremity by her done, then pine away with grief in her absence? Yes Ornatus, in being as thou art, thou art more happy, and therefore mayest thou be in some better hope of comfort. What if she will not love thee? yet for the good will she cannot hate thee: And thou,

thou,

though she know what thou art, she will rather conceal thee, then betray thee. When try whether she loveth thee, or no: but howeake my self knowne: so, I will write a letter, which I will leade in some place, where she may find it, and by that means I shall see whether she will love or no. And taking pen ink, and paper, he wrote as followeth.

To the most vertuous Artefia, the forsaken

Ornatus sendeth humble

greetings

Vere you but so mercifull as fair, I would not despair of pitty, Or were you willing to know my truth and loyalty, you would (though not yeeld to my suit, yet) pitty me. I cannot use protestations, nor dissemble grief: but be you most assured, that what proceedeth out of my lips, commeth from my heart. Extremity maketh me over bold, and despair maketh me more desperate, in uttering my mind: I cannot chuse but say I love you, for that I love indeed. I cannot set forth my love with filed terms: but in plain teach protest, that my love is constant, loyal, vertuous, and immoyeable; and though you hate, yet I must love; and though you for ever deny to love, yet will I persist in constancy, for the worst I can endure is death: and that my soul alreadie inwardly feeleth. I have forsaken my Parents, Friends, and all, to become acceptable to you: for whilst I was Allinius son, you did hate me; then I beseech you, now that I am not Allinius son, nor Ornatus, pitty me: For without your pitty I die, and little can my death profit you, but letting me live, you shall for ever enjoy a faithfull servant. So most vertuous Artefia, I commit my cause to your wise consideration.

Yours inseparably, neither Ornatus nor himself, but your poor servant.

Ornatus

The most pleasant History of

When he had written this Letter, & sealed the same, the next morning he laid it in a place of the Garden, where he knew Artelia would walk: And from thence, coming to her chamber, he found her ready to go forth.

Artelia welcommed Silvia kindly, and forth they went together, and walking up and down a pretty while, Artelia espied the white Paper, and desirous to see what it was, took it up, reading the Superscription, marbelling what the contents should be, and how it should come there: and turning to Silvia, said: See you this Letter? it is directed to me, I marvell how it should come here, unlesse it were laid of purpose: well, howsoever it be, I will read the contents, and you shall be partaker of them. When she had read the same, and well understood that it was Ornatus, at the first, she was vexed, that she said: I now perceive, that Ornatus was wiser then I took him to be; for I see he hath committed no outrage upon himself, but wisely will try me first: and if I will not yeld to love him, what will he do? HARRY return to his father again. This is Adellenaes doing, and according as I thought, they are agreed; she left this letter here, and her I may blame, and not him: For had not she promised him to do it, he would never of himself have attempted it. Silvia I pray this counsel me what I should do herein, for my heart is oppressed with many thoughts, that I will not utter untill I know thy mind?

Silvia thus answered: Since you have given me licence to speak that which my heart thinketh: first I say, if Ornatus loveth according as he professeth, as no doubt he doth, you have good reason to pittie him, for that by your own report, he is every way worthy thereof: which if you do, you shall be sure of a constant friend, preserve his life, and make unity betwixt your Parents. As for Adellena, if it were her doot, she did but the part of a friend, but it is very unlikely, for that she was not here since yesterday. Neither can I think any man can dissemble so much, as to make these professions, and yet be false: for his words, in my fancy, bear an evident likelihood of truth. Therefore,

if I may counsell you, yeeld to that which is vertuous, and in so doing you shall purchase your own good, his content, and perpetuall quiet to both your families.

Would you have me then (quoth she) yeeld to love mine enemy? how is he your enemy (quoth Silvia) when he loveth you? He is mine enemy, because his father hating me, how can he love me? Nay rather (quoth Silvia) his Father not loving you, how can he chuse but love you, because he seeth them hate you, that are worthy to be beloved? Besides, their hatred being unjust, it sheweth his vertue the more, to love those his Parents hate: and it is commonly seen, where there is hatred betwixt the Parents, the children have loved most dearly, as in common experience it is seene: have you not read the Histories of Pyramus and Thysby, Romeo and Juliet, and many other; whose love was the more constant, by so much the more their parents hatred was deadly.

I remember such histories (quoth Artesia) but what was the end of their love: was it not most miserable? I grant it was (quoth Silvia) which was procured by their Parents cruelty, but not their Love; wherein notwithstanding, they took such felicity, that they rather chose to dy together, then to be parted: which argueth, that the enmity betwixt Parents, cannot break off love betwixt the Children; yet might such tragicall events have been prevented by wisdom. But how know I (said Artesia) whether Ornatus love be so constant, or no? Can you have any greater proof thereof then his own letters, the forsaking of his Parents, and living peradventure in penury? But if you doubt of that, once again try him. Well (said Artesia) I asked but the counsell, but instead thereof thou usest perswasion: but seeing thou art so forward to do me good, which I hope is thy intent, if thou wilt keep my counsell thou shalt know both my mind, and what I intend. Assure your self (quod Silvia) I will rather lose my life then prove unfaithfull. When (said she) I confesse to thee Silvia, that love hath made entrance into my heart, that I would willingly both pittie Ornatus, grant him his request:

The most pleasant History of

for that with often remembering him, I cannot forget him, neither doth any thought please me, but when I think of him. But there are so many slips to hinder our love, that though I love him, I shall never enjoy him.

For should my Parents know thereof, they would pry so warily into my actions, that it were impossible for me once to have a sight of him; whom I do scarce remember, I have so seldom seen him. You may (as Silvia) both love him, and enjoy him: and since you have begun to like of him, he bring worthy thereof, and equalling you in affection, increase that love; and might I but once come to speak with him I would not doubt but to effect all things with such sincerity that you should with quiet enjoy him.

Well (quoth Artelia) I commit all to you, my life for that dependeth on my love, being willing to do anything that shall not disagree with modesty: Desiring you to keep my counsels secret; for to betray them may endanger both his and my life.

After many other speeches pass betwixt them, Adellena entered the garden. Artelia espying her at the first thus greeted her, Goodmorrow Adellena, I know not whether I may salute thee as a friend, or a prey for, for that by the means I am brought into bondage.

I pray thee tell me without dissembling (which I fear me thou canst do too well) when thou sawest Ornatu? and yet I know thy answer before I ask. Dost thou not know this letter? didst thou not hide it in this Garden, that I might find it? did not Ornatu hire thee to say, that he was departed from his fathers house, while he lieth at home in the house? I know thy answer will be no, but how may I believe that? dost thou not likewise say he loveth me when thou knowest the contrary, and dost but dissemble? If thou harbourest any verity in thee, tell me the truth and dissemble not, for in doing so, thou shalt greatly content me, discharge thy conscience, and per adventure, do Ornatu a good turn.

Adellena hearing her speeches, was so astonish'd at these strangenesses, that for a good while she stood as one, senseless; but

but at the last she made this answer: Your demands are such as that I know not how to answer them; but heavens punish me if I dissemble: I saw not Ornatus since the time he came to me, to know how you accepted the letter which I conveyed into your Casket. For that letter, I am altogether ignorant, neither did I ever see the same before now: I never spoke with Ornatus, saw Ornatus, or heard from him, since I last gave him your answer: neither know I where he is: but this I know, that he is not to be found, but poor Gentleman languisheth in love. And I dare protest he loveth you most dearly: neither need you misdoubt; that he is absent or hidden at my house; for it is too true, he hath taken such grief at your unkindness, as will I fear me endanger his life.

I would it were not so, but th it he were at my house; then would I counsell him rather to forget to love, then endanger his life thereby.

May I beleve (quoth Artelia) that this thou sayest is true: Heavens let me live no longer (quoth Adellena) if I dissemble. Then (quoth Artelia) how should this letter be conveyed into this Garden, but by himselfe: With that the christall tears fell from her eyes.

CHAP. VI.

How Ornatus love was hindered by the newes of Arbastus death.

How Florentus, to attain Silviaes love, both confessed he slew Arbastus, and intended to poison Artelia.



To augment Arteliaes fears, a Messenger hastily running, came in, and brought this news, uttering the same with a ghastly countenance.

Artelia, heare my tragick discourse, your father as you know rode forth this morning to chase the fearful Deer, who was mowing from his company, at last by his long

The most pleasant History of

long stay was mist, and all of us coming together, studied amongst our selves what should become of him: at last we were commanded by Floretus your Uncle, to seek severall wayes in search of him; whom at last we found most grievously wounded, and dead. Artesia hearing his words, with suddaine griefe fell downe dead. Which when Sylvia perceived, he caught her in his armes, rubbing her pale cheekes untill she was revived againe. Then they conveyed her to her Bed, in such extreamity with that suddaine griefe, that they feared the losse of her life: which exceedingly tormented Sylvia to behold. Then was there such an uproare in Arbastus house, as all seemed in utter dispaire, one conjecturing this, another that, of Arbastus death: but all in generall, concluding, that it was done by Allius, in revenge of his brothers death.

Arbastus wife likewise conceived such sorrow at this unexpected event, that with very griefe thereof she dyed. Artesia with both of them was ready to yeeld up her latest breath; and had done so, had she not bene carefully preserved by Sylvia, and Adellena: Who by their counsells and indeavours, pacified the extreamity of her perplexity. This newes was soon spread into most places of the country: but because there was no iust proove of the murtherer, there was no great question made thereof. Arbastus having never a trusty friend to prosecute revenge, Floretus now tooke upon him to rule and governe all that belonged to Arbastus, as his brother, and soon caused him and his Lady to be worthily interred, and built a sumptuous Monument in their remembrance. Which being over-past, he came againe to Artesia, (as in the meantime he had oftentimes done) and finding her very weake, used many speeches to comfort her, giving such as were about her speciall charge, to minister all things necessarie, to restore her to her former health: Seeming to be most carefull of her Guard, promising and protesting to be unto her in stead of a Father.

Sylvia all this while was exceedingly grieved in minde, to see his Love growne so weake, and in such danger of her life:

not

not once forsaking her in all the time of her sickness, but continually comforting her with hearty speeches, and carefull attendance; not so much as once departing her Chamber, but taking exceeding paines to pleasure her: that shee took great comfort in her supposed Sylvia; who oftentimes would steale a sweete kisse from Arteliaes Lips: which she permitted, taking the same to proceed from a courteous minde, when Sylvia did it of deepe affection; accounting the estate wherein he lived, to exceed all joyes, and his delight past compare: proffering many familiarities, that Artelia took in kinde part, which otherwise she would have refused, had she knowne who her Companion Sylvia had beene.

Ornatus marvelled, that all this time she spake not of him: which he desired to urge her to doe, by many occasions; but these Extremities had banished all remembrance of him out of her minde, which exceedingly tormented Ornatus, fearing, this delay would some way turne to his ill: That whereas before time he was pleasant, and merry, and oftentimes would move Artelia to mirth by his disport; now that humour was alienated, and he became continually melancholly, and sad: oftentimes, when Artelia was from him, he would get into a solitary place, to bewaile his hard fate. Which she noted, and wondred at, thinking the same had proceeded from being so long absent from his own trye & friends. One day she found her deemed Sylvia solitary alone, and coming unawares heard her utter these words: Oh, how unhappy am I, to love, and not to be beloved! Sylvia espying her, left off, to whom Artelia said:

Why how now Sylvia, are you in love? Can it be, that your Minde is assailed with that venomous Serpent, that poysoneth the Sences, altereth the Complexion, troubleth the Head and Heart: Shake it off, and cast it out of your sight: for it never did any good, but hath brought many to perpetuall miserie.

Since you have over-heard me (quoth Sylvia) I must needs confesse I am in love, which doth not any way worke

The most pleasant History of

are such affect in me, as you speak of; but I take all comfort therein; my senses, heart, head, and all my parts, take exceeding pleasure therein. Why then quoth Artelia is you thus pensively alone, as if it smoth to me bewailing your estate to be in love? I do not (quoth Silvia) sorrow that I am in love, but that I am not beloved again: for bring in love, I have holped to live so for ever; and sooner shall my life decay, then forget my love, for with my love, my life shall end. What hard-hearted man (said Artelia) is he, that knowing you love him, will not love you again? Such is my hard estate (said Silvia) that the party whom I do love, knoweth I love and yet causelessly doth hate me: neither am I farre absent from him, but enjoy his company: without which my life would decay. Is he in this house you love? Can it be, you are intangled since you came hither? No (quoth Silvia) I loved before I came hither. How can it be, when you are a stranger, and cast in this country by shipwrack? either you must needes be some other then we take you for, otherwise these things are impossible. But if you dare put trust in my secrecy, impart your mind to me, and I promise you I will do the best I can to further your love. You may do much therein (quoth Silvia) and none more then your self: but I beseech you, pardon me for revealing the same, before you may assure me of one thing which you may do without any harme to your self, and be not offended with me, if I ask you Tell me what it is (quoth she) and I will answer you. When (said Silvia) I would first know whether you love Ormus, or no? With that he started, saying: Ah me, that name bringeth death to my heart, and thou woundest my soul with grief to hear him named. Dost thou think I have cause to love, and not rather above all men to hate him? Dost thou not see my father lately murdered by him, or some by his appointment, and thinkest thou I can love so deadly a foe, by whom I am brought to this misery? No, assure the self Silvia, according as I have just cause, I do hate him, as the greatest enemy I have: whose very name affrighteth me with terror: and if thou hadst loved me, as I was perswaded thou didst, thou

thou shouldst not have troubled my heart with that ominous
 paine. And yet, for all this mischief that he hath done me,
 dost thou not see how he liues for my love, and had so much
 predailed, that my heart began to yeeld to his suite? With
 that she pulled out of her pocket the Letter, saying, These lines
 the fruits of his stimulation, were adreſs in the Willants of
 my Fathers murder, with that she toze them into a thousand
 pieces.

Sylvia seeing the same, was ready to ſtoorne with griefe, and
 breathing forth a heart-burning sigh, said: O, how is yodds In-
 nocencie ſuſpected! And being ready to ſay more, was disappoint-
 ed by Florents coming, who even then entred the Garden:
 and finding them out used many courteous ſpeeches to them both
 eſpecially comforting Artelia; to whom he ſaid: Deare Couſin,
 ſince theſe miſchances cannot be remedied, let wiſdom now ſub-
 ſway your passionate ſorrow, and with patience remit all ſuch
 theſe griefe; for theſe things paſt cure are not to be lamented:
 but now commit the care of your ſafety to my truſtineſſe, that
 will aſtenderly regard your good as mine owne life. There-
 fore be of comfort, & whatſoever you deſire ſhall be to the ut-
 moſt accompliſhed. Artelia yeilded him many thanks: and ſo
 they went in.

Artelia being alone by her ſelfe, could by no meanes forget
 what ſpeech ſhe had with Sylvia: either thinking he ſid ſen-
 ſible, or was ſomewhat other then ſhe ſeemed: or elſe that ſhe was
 in love with Florent, when ſhe remembered her ſpeeches ſaying,
 How is Innocencie ſuſpected! which ſhe ſaid to ſhe ſpoke, by her
 accusing of Ornatu: which made her into many doubtfull Co-
 git-tions, & troubled her ſences exceedingly: but by reaſon of her
 little ſuſped of Sylvias diſguiſe, ſhe could not judge any thing
 thereof. Sylvia likewise not daring to offend her, & loving her
 ſo dearly ſhe could not ſeeme to ſee her diſguiſed, ſaid no more
 ſpeeches tending to love, but frequenting her company, & here in
 he with his whole ſelfe, he accounted himſelfe moſt happy to
 live & enjoy her beſt preſence, being out of hope ſo attaine
 her love, reſtoring his heart with many ſolaces of ſweet delight
 in beholding that which ſhe little thought he had ſeene.

Many

The most pleasant History of

Many dayes continued Sylvia in this disguise : in which time Arbastus death was almost forgotten: and Floreus, drawn by Sylvias manifold Vertues, began exceedingly to affect her, using such kind behaviour towards her, that she suspected that which afterwards she found most true. For Floreus concealing his love, felt the flame to burne the more inwardly, and living in that scorching tyranny, thought it better so him to manifest his love, then by hiding the same to augment his torment : assuring himselfe to obtaine his desire, for that Sylvia was a stranger, farre from friends, and without his friendship, likely to come to poverty : which he thought would be meanes of importance, to draw her to like of him : Besides he thought he might doe as he list with Arctesia, for that she was only in his custody. And on a day, finding Sylvia alone in the alone in the Garden, coming to her with a submissive behaviour, he said as followeth :

My deare Sylvia, I would gladly utter a matter of importance, if you will vouchsafe me gentle audience : So it is, faire Damosell, that my heart hath long time bene intyralled to your Beauty, which I have refrained to utter fearing to be refused : but knew you how faithfully my heart is devoted to your service, and with what torment I have concealed the same, you would pittie me. My estate is sufficient to maintaine you well, though not so worthy as you deserve : you shall live with me in contented ease, and have so faithfull and constant a friend, as no torment nor affliction shall alter. Therefore I beseech you, let me receive some hope of comfort, by your gentle speeches, which shall expell many cares from my troubled heart.

Sylvia had much ado to abstaine from smiling, to thinke how unfit she was to yeeld such a reward as Floreus expected : but committing further consideration thereof, to time more convenient, gave him this answer :

My mind, Sir, is unapt to entertaine Love, considering how farre I am from my Countrey, and how soone I may be overtaken ; therefore, I pray you, take not that at my hands, which I will not grant : but if with your labour I

may live so quietly as since my conning I have done, I shall thinke my selfe moze beholding to you for that, than for your proffered love, which I cannot yeld unto. Floretus thinking her soft answer was a signe she would soone yeld, still prosecuted his suit with earnestnesse; insomuch, that Sylvia told him that as yet she could not fancy him, because she had not triall of him, but that she would consider further thereof. And so for that time they parted.

Floretus in hope to attaine that which was not to be had, and Silvia in hope by this means the sooner to attain Arctiaes love. First, considering Floretus had the disposing of her and therefore he must please him, least otherwise he might be deprived of her company: Then he began to think of Arctius murther, knowing assuredly, that it was not acted by his Fathers counsell, but rather by some secret foe, that might as well be Floretus as any other, for that he was the next heir, if Arctia hindered him not: Which conceit took such an effectuall instance in his fancy, that comparing Floretus behaviour, countenance, and little enquire for the murtherer, he plainly suspected him; which by the Divine Providence, rather than by any evident proofe, was stirred in his opinion. Such murther is never unrevealed, and though never so closely done, yet God by some extraordinary means or other, revealeth the same.

So came it to passe with Ornatus, although he was no way privy to any such act, or had any probability thereof, yet he thought that Floretus countenance betrayed his treachery, and therefore he longed to have some conference with him, to see if he could gather the truth, whereby he thought both to discharge himself of that suspicion Arctia had of him, and also when she saw his innocency and constancy, she might yeld to love him: purposing to leave no means unattempted to try him, which he did the next time he spake with him, in this sort.

Early the next Morning, Floretus not unmindfull of his love, which kept him from his sleep that night, never left till he had found Sylvia, and conning to her with manifold submissione

The most pleasant History of

misse speeches, solicited his fate: whom Silvia cunningly handled, still putting him in hope, and yet making him no promise which set him the more on fire being so farre obergone with affection that he purposely determined either to win her love, or to hazard his own life, & to leave no means unattempted were it never so dangerous to procure his own content: The more unwilling he saw Silvia the more importunate he grew, till at last Silvia said as fo' loweth: Floretus, I know no reason you have to be so importunate, when I see in you no token of fidelity: but once having attained your purpose, you will esteeme me as lightly as easily won: Besides, I see not how ou can perform any such matter as you promise, for I being of a strange countrie have nothing, and you for ought I see, as little: then by matching with you I shall bring my self to povertie, and miserie: and even your love now so hot will be as cold, and I as rejected shall be left off to utter misery. Floretus not suffering her to proceed any further, made this answer: Silvia, do you not see Arbastus wealth, will not that be sufficient, the great possessions I now enioie by him, are sufficient to maintain you in all quiet, and yield you your hearts content. Arbastus wealth (said Silvia) that is Artesia's by right, then how can you possesse the same, the living? Do but grant me love, said he, and I will quickly satisfie you in that I have a means to get all into mine own hands: and therefore I beseech you let no such mean trouble your mind: but be assured that in injoying me, you shall have all happinesse and quiet, by my humble, dutifull, and constant loyalty. Do but assure me of this (quoth Silvia) and you shall know my resolution afterwards:

Artesia entring the chamber brake off their speeches, to hole presence bered Floretus at the heart, being scarce able to speak, by reason of his inward rancor: for indeed he hated Artesia, because she onely kept him from possessing his brothers living the want whereof kept him from attaining Silvia's love: therefore he resolved by some means to work her downfal: which within short tyme he acquainted Silvia withall by this occasion.

One day finding her alone in a secret place in the garden, after many speeches past betwixt them, whereby he perceived, the chiefest thing that hindred him was his want of wealth, and after that Silvia had in some sort made him a grant (onely to try him) he began to utter his full intent in this sort: O dear Silvia, I am so well perswaded of your vertue and put such confidence in your trustinesse, that I will reveale to you the very depth and secrets of my heart, Would you but sweare to keep my counsell: soz to purchase your content I have determined to put in practise a matter of secrecy, which concerneth my life and therefore not to be revealed.

Silvia hearing that, thought it better to sweare a thousand oathes, and break them all than by nicenesse to endanger the life of Artesia, which she supposed he aimed at, & promised him by many protestations, to keep secret whatsoever he told her: whereupon Floretus urged with hope to win her love, and emboldened in mischief, cares not what he did to attain his will, said as followeth: Silvia, you see Arbastus is dead, which was one stop that kept me from enjoying great possessions, and my purpose is, so you will but vouchsafe to aid me therein, to be so rid of Artesia: & then all that belongeth unto her by her fathers death, shall be yours to dispose of. Silvia's heart throbbed to hear his speeches & intending to list him to the sul, said as followeth: Floretus I am sure you speak this onely to try me and so to trap me, and not of any intent you have to perform the same, wherein you shall do me great wrong, and your self no good: soz I cannot beleve you bear the least thought to do it. By heaven it is my full intent, and soz that you may be assured thereof, it was I that slew Arbastus, howsoever the matter is imputed to Allinus, and purpose likewise to be rid of Artesia only soz your sake.

Therefore make no doubt of my resolution: soz I am absolutely purposed to do it. O (thought Silvia) rather shall thou see my blood than spill one drop of hers. Why Floretus would you have me do any thing therein? You onely may do it (quoth she) with more safety than any other, and the manner how is this.

The most pleasant History of

Within a mile from this Castle, Arbassus hath a banquetting house in his Park where oftentimes he would for his recreation lie, whither will I perswade Artelia to go for a season, to take the air, and to recreate her senses dulled with grief; and none but you to keep her company, and some two servants whose trustinesse I am assured of. This done, I will get a drink to be made, the force whereof, shall expell life, and yet by no means nor any cunning or still be found out, which when you shall think convenient, give unto her: and being once dead, who shall make any enquiry, but that she died of a natural sickness: and so this matter may without the least suspicion be effected: and then you shall be mistress both of her heritage and my self. Silvia said, when shall this be put in practise? Within these two daies at the farthest said he: in the mean time frequent you Arteliaes company, in such familiar sort as heretofore you have done, and my self wil use her with no lesse kindnesse. Many other speeches being past betwixt them at that time, they parted.

CHAP. VII.

How Ornatus told Artelia of Floretus intent and upon what occasion he discovered himself.



Floretus being by himself, began to consider how rashly he had committed his secrets to Silvia, and entred into these meditations: Doth Silvia think that my policy exceedeth not her shallow capacity: proue simple stranger, she hath undertaken a matter of importance for me, that mean nothing lesse than good will to her: she, for my love, hath promised to poison Artelia, and is likely, for that once done, to taste the same sauce: for loved she me never so well I will not trust her with my life: but peradventure she hateth me, and will reveale my secret to Artelia. No Floretus, thou art deceived, she is so farre from

Ornatus and Artelia.

love, that she doth, and would I am sure, do any thing at my request. What a world is this? What Willany can be intended, which some either for favoz or reward will not execute? If I should trust her that is so easily won to do such a hainous deed might I not bee accounted mad? Yes, and therefore I will not trust her: but Artelia being once dispatcht she shall follow next.

Ornatus on the contrary part was glad that he had felt the depth of Floretus counsell, thinking likewise that hee was so far in love with him (taking him for a Woman) that for his sake he sought Arteliaes death, which was the onely means to help him attain her love: which he likewise determined to give her knowledge of, and to discover himself; hoping that when she saw his innocency, his faithfull love, and how by his means her life was preserved, she would yeeld him due guerdon for his good will. Whilest hee was in the depth of those cogitations, he espied Artelia enter the Gardeu; and taking his Lute, found her seated upon a flowery Bank, under the shade of a Myrtle tree, and perceiving that shee was somewhat heavily inclined, hee satte downe by her, and with his sweet melody brought her asleep: when she had slept a good while, being exceedingly affrighted with a dreame she started up, looking earnestly upon Silvia, saying; I pray thee Sylvia do not popson me. Silvia seeing her so affrighted, was exceedingly amazed and she her self, not yet fully recovered, seemed to be afraid of him: till at last Silvia said; I beseech you what is it that affrighteth you? O Silvia (said she) I dreamt thou wouldst have murdered me. Heavens forbid (quoth he) that I should attempt so hainous a deed: But would you vouchsafe to heare my tragicke report, you shall be rid of that doubt, for Silvia is much tempted to doe such a deed, but she esteemes your life moze dearer than her own and would rather with her owne hands teare out her woofull heart, than think the least thought to wrong you. But because I have so fit occasion, and I hope your patience will permit me, I will rehearse a most monstrous and hainous intended mischief. The otherday I remember you were

The most pleasant History of

exceedingly offended with me, for naming Ornatus, for that you supposed him to be an adoz in Arbastus death : but both he and Allinus are innocent, and farre from any such thought, for your Uncle Floretus was his murtherer, which he told me himselfe. He hath bene oftentimes importunate to win my love (which another possesseth) but I suspecting as much as I now finde to be true, held him off with this delay, That he had not wealth to maintaine me : Which when I had often alledged, he told me, all that belonged to Arbastus, was his. When I demanded how that could be, since you were living : Quoth he, sweare but to be secret, and I will tell you how : With that upon my protestations, he told me that he had murdered Arbastus, and meant to poison you ; perswading me to consent thereto, for that he said I only could doe it. With that, I (not purposing to doe it, but to preserve you) promised him my uttermost assistance ; which he told me should be done in this manner : I will (quoth he) perswade Artesia to forsake the Castle, and to sojourne some few dayes in a House Arbastus hath in a Parke, where none but you and two other servants, whose secretis I nothing doubt shall keepe her company, where I will give you such a Potion, as shall end her life, and yet by no meanes be perceived : neither can there be any doubt thereof, for that I, and none else, am left of her kindred to search the truth. This is the summe of that he told me.

Artesia hearing her words, sate like one without sence a good space, being so farre obergone with grief and feare, that she could not speake a word, but at the last she burst forth into these lamentations : Aye me, unkind and most unnaturall Uncle, canst thou speake me so faire, and intend me so much harme : Who would have thought so foule impiety had bene shrouded under so faire pretext : Couldst thou be so unnaturall, as to murder thy owne most naturall, loving, and deare Brother, and not contented with this Tragedie, to seeke my untimely death : What frenzis or felly doth possesse thy breast, that I esteemed replete with vertue : How canst thou suffer so unpius and haynous a thought to sink into thy heart, much less

Ornatus and Artesia.

lesse to act such a notorious Outrage against him that loved thee as his life; and her that honoureth thee as her friend: O Sylvia, may I credit thy words, and not rather accuse thee, and excuse him? May I thinke him so simple, to trust thee with his secrets? No: I feare me this is some pollicy invented by thee to some bad end. Yet I pray thee pardon me: for what canst thou get by telling me so, unlesse it were so: or not rather have kept his counsell, and then thou mightest have bene my Heyre. And pardon I aske of thee, good Ornatus, though thou art absent for that I accused thee as accessarie to my Fathers death, when thou wert innocent. With that, a flood of teares stopt the passage of her speech: and Sylvia said: Artesia yet vouchsafe to heare my counsell, which shall prevent all these eminent evils. You may peradventure make some doubt of the truth of that which I have spoken: but I take Heaven to record, no word is false: for I regard your good above all things, and your quiet above my owne content: for should you dye, I could not live, for by that I draw my breath. I dived into Florenus counsell, not to aide him, but to prevent them; for that I knew Ornatus was no way guilty of any such treason, but would have ventured his owne life to have preserved your Fathers, whom he both loved & honoured as himselfe, of whom I could have told you moze but that fearing to offend you, and partly seeing how vehemently you accused him. I durst not: His love is lopall, and thereon I will patone my life. Sylvia (quoth Artesia) thou tellest me things of wonder: but especially that thou art so privie to Ornatus thoughts, and that thou darest so boldly affirme he loveth me, when thou mayst be deceived. Most virtuous Artesia (quoth he) were you but so privie to the thoughts of his heart as I am, you would say as much as I, & beleve all that I tel you: and to put you in assurance of what I know, I give you knowledg that I am Ornatus, & in this disguise have sought to attaine your love: for which boldnesse, I most humbly desire you to pardon me. With that a ruddie blush spred it selfe in Artesias cheekes, befoze pale with feare, being so ashamed he had bin so privie to many of her actions, that she could not tell with what countenance to behold him.

The

The most pleasant History of

Then Ornatus said, I beseech you pity my torment, which hath urged me to this boldnesse, being frustrated of other means to enjoy your presence: my meaning being no other than virtuous, but resting at your mercifull disposition: I desire you to put assured confidence in me for preventing ^{Florentus} intent, which you need not doubt of, for to my grief I know it to be too true.

Artelia marvelled exceedingly at the strangenesse of these newes; but most of all, admired Ornatus love, which she could not tel how to respect, for she both wel knew he deserved love, and the necessity of the time was such, that her safety rested in his secrecie: yet being not willing at that instant to yield, without further assault, said, I know not by what name to call you, neither do I know whether you are Sylvia or Ornatus: but of either of both, your words bear great shew of true friendship which I fear me is not grounded in your heart, neither do I greatly care: for since my Uncle seeketh my life, let him take it, for I am weary thereof.

Let not your gentle heart (quoth Ornatus) make any doubt that I am Ornatus, though my counterfeite disguise doth shew me other: but either vouchsafe me love, or give me leave to die for Artelia for that potion that should dispatch you, shall end my life. For my life is bound to your command, and al my felicity resteth in your favour: which unlesse you grant, my life without the same will be but short, and the time I have to live, an endlesse labyrinth of sorrow.


Adellena by occasion entred the Garden, and found Artelia weeping, and Sylvia in a heavy dumptie; tormenting himselfe to see her sorrow. But Artelia spying her said, Adellena, dost thou love Ornatus so much, as that thou wouldst hazard Life and Credit to doe him good, thou sayst thou knowest him to be a most virtuous and honest Gentleman: I, but wouldst thou quoth she) keepe my counsaile, if I reveale a secret of importance to you concerning Ornatus? upon Adellenas promise, she sayd: Doe you know Ornatus, if you see him? Behold there he is, Adellena was at the first halfe astonished at her speeches: but at last she perfectly remembered that it was he.

Ornatus and Artesia.

he indeed: rejoicing most exceedingly to see him there, especially with Artesia. Then they declared unto her all that had happened, and of Florentus intent, desiring her to be secret, and make no shew of discontent, least he should suspect Silvia had betrayed his secrets: and after some other speeches past, they went into the house together.

CHAP. VIII.

How Artesia departed to the Lodge with Silvia, and from thence secretly departed to Adellenaes house; and how Ornatus taken to be Silvia, was by Florentus accusation, and Artesiaes want, banished.

 At it fell out so the next day, that the King with divers of his company, amongst whom was his onely Sonne and Heire Lenon, being wearied with travell, arrived at Arbastus house, thinking to have found him there, but the King hearing of his sudden death, was exceedingly sorry, perswading himself as all men else did, that hee was slaine by some of Allinus house, which made him make small aboad there, but departed to his Pallace. Now it fortuned that Lenon beheld Artesiaes beauty, and was with the first view thereof exceedingly transported: insomuch that after hee was gone, hee could by no means forget her; but determined ere long, to return to see if he could attain her love.

Now the time was come that Florentus had appointed to set abroach his Willany, and (according as Ornatus had before told Artesia) he came to her, perswading her for a season to lie in the Country: which she as fore-armed consented unto: and so the next morning, she with Silvia, Florentus and divers others, departed: at night Florentus returning, did leave with her according as hee had promised Silvia, onely two Servants, that were to provide them necessaries, but knew no part of the conspiracy. When Ornatus and Artesia were alone

The most pleasant History of

alone, she before being undoubtedly assured of his loves fidelity, did use these comfortable speeches to him: Ornatus, whereas alwayes before this time, too unkindly I have reputed you as a foe, I now crave pardon, being sorry that my heart hath done you so much wrong, which now I will requite with kindnesse. I confesse it was strange to me to entertaine love, but now I willingly yeeld my selfe to be subject to it, and your true and faithfull friend; committing my self to your custody and my love & self to be yours to dispose of. Ornatus hearing her speeches, was ravished with a Heavens joy: and with a gentle and kind behaviour folding her in his arm, and imprinting a sweet kisse upon her Rosie lips, he said: Never was poor wretch exalted to more Happynesse than I am by being enriched with this inestimable treasure of your love. How rich reward have I now reapt for my cares! and what glorie, joy, or wealth, can be compared to the riches of your love? O heavenly Artesia how fortunate have you made Ornatus? How have you blest Ornatus? How full of joy is Ornatus by your full consent? Was ever any so unworthy, so exalted? for this kindnesse and love I will perform more than my tongue can utter, and bee more faithfull than your heart can wish. Then began they to embrace each other, and to surfeit themselves in the solaces that true love yeildeth: He sometimes lending her a kisse, and she with interest paying two for one; for one sweet look two and so many embracings as are not to be explicated: their hearts and hands joined in such firm bands of true affection, as are not to be dissolved; & they surfeited with such exceeding content, as is impossible to be described. These stormes of love somewhat mitigated, they began to consult of their dangerous estate, and to devise how to prevent the intended mischief. In this place they continued some two dayes in exceeding content, still expecting to hear from Florentus: who the third day fearing to trust any with a matter of such weight, came himself to bring the portion (yet in shew of kindnesse to visite Artesia) delibering the same to Silvia, willing her the next night to give it heauenlyed she promised him faithfully to accomplish.

When he was gone, Artesia came to Ornatus, to know what newes Floretus brought: who told her all, and shewed her the Poyson in a Glasse, which he had charged should be given her the next day. With that Artesia began to waile, and exclaime against her Uncle in most extreame sort. But Ornatus intreated her to cease such vaine grieffe, which could not hurt him but her selfe: promising her to prevent the same, if she would follow his counsell, which she willingly yielded unto.

Then quoth he, let us presently depart from hence to Adellenaes house, which is not farre off, who you know, is agreed with us already: where I will leave you and returne. Which sayd, while the servants were absent upon some speciall occasion, they departed, with little labour arriving at Adellenaes house, who was ready to receive them: and after many farewells, Ornatus returned back to the Lodge. And when it was Supper time, the servants brought up meat, but Ornatus told them, Artesia was scarce well, and therefore they would not suppe that night. And being alone by himselfe he studied what excuse to make for Artesiaes absence, when Floretus should come: spending that night in much care, and many unquiet cogitations, which tooke away his sleep.

Floretus was no sooner returned from the Lodge, but he met Lenon, who of purpose came to meet Artesia, whom Floretus kindly saluted, marveling much wherefore he came: to ease which doubt Lenon sayd.

My friend Floretus, I come to visit the faire Artesia, to whose beauty I am enthralled, not as regarding her wealth, but her sweete love, of whom you only have the government: therefore I pray besfriend me so much, that I may come to speech of her. Floretus was so exceedingly amazed to heare his speeches, that he could not tell what answer to make nor how to excuse her absence. Lenon seeing him in such a strude, continued his speeches, saying: Floretus be not unwilling I should match with Artesia, for that shall no way hinder your preferment, who think peradventure the longer she liveth

The most pleasant History of

unmarryed, the more wealth thou shalt get by her: but to rid you of that doubt, be but a meanes to win her consent, & I vow by Heaven, I will not take one peny worth of Arbastus substance from you, but freely give it you all: For it is not her possessions I regard, but her love, therefore I pray resolve me of your mind herein.

My Lord replied he, your offer is so bountifull, besides my duty urging me, I am ready to performe your will to the uttermost of my power. I thanke you good Floretus, quoth Lenon: then I pray thee bring me to her, for my love is impatient of delay. My Lord, replied he: that I cannot do instantly, for Artesia some two dayes past with the strange Damosell Silvia, departed hence, and they are both now at the Lodge: whether (if you please to take such entertainment as this place yieldeth, we will go to morrow morning. Agreed so. Lenon. I will accept your proffer. When the time of rest was come, Floretus being alone by himselfe, entred into these cogitations: What inconveniencies hast thou runne into Floretus: thou hast hired one to murder Artesia, in hope to get her wealth, and made Sylvia acquainted with thy counsell, which wealth thou mayst now attaine by preserving her life: and besides, winning her to love Lenon, thou shalt find him thy faithfull friend for ever.

What wert thou then best to doe? If thou shouldst murder her, he would make enquiry of her death, & so thou wilt be undone: If not, then will Silvia be displeased, and so bewray the drift: the mischiefes which by thy folly thou hast runne into are so intricate, that thou knowest not which way to shun them.

Were it not better to save her life, and win her love for Lenon, then to poison her, & so die my selfe? If I save her life, Sylvia will be discontented: what of that? Then let Sylvia smart for it: for if she will not be contented with that I shall doe, she shall never live to bewray my counsell. And therefore will I first try her, and finding any suspicion thereof, I will stabbe her my selfe, whose death I may easier answer then Artesias.

Early the next morning, Lenon and he rode to the Lodge : where no sooner arrived, but he met with Sylvia, to whom he sayd, why how now Sylvia, I have newes of importance to impart unto thee ; Lenon whom thou here beholdest, is sonne to the King, and is deeply in love with Artesia, and hath given me assurance of Arbassus livings, if I can win Artesia to match with him : Now I thinke it good to deferre our purpose as concerning her death, untill we have made triall whether she will love him, or no ; which If we can effect, we shall be quit of so cruell a deed, enjoy her Heritage, and have an assured friend of Lenon, whilst we live : therefore let me know your opinion herein.

Sylvia was exceedingly amazed to heare his speeches : thinking, that if he should tell him where Artesia was, she would be wrested from the possession of him, and so himselfe be disappointed of her love ; and on the other side he thought what mischief would arise if he should say he had already given her the Poyson. Yet his love overmastering the feare of any danger made him say : All this I like ; but Floretus, it is now too late : for I have caused Artesia to drinke the Poyson you delivered me, and she is dead ; which was of such force, that all her body purpled into Blisters & Swellings : which because I knew would betray what we had done, I took her Body, and conveyed it into a deepe Pit, where it is impossible to be found.

Floretus now fearing to have his Treason betrayed, thought to stabbe Sylvia, and was so transported that in a monstrous rage he drew his Dagger, and unawares stricke Sylvia in the left Arme : who feeling the smart, with violence more than Floretus expected, leapt to him, and in spight of his uttermost strength, wrunge the Dagger out of his hands, and with the same wounded him in three places ; and had not Lenon leapt betwixt them, Floretus had beene slaine.

Lenon having parted them, demanded what the matter was. Floretus thinking rather to accuse, then bee accused himself, and terrified with affright, said : That wicked woman

The most pleasant History of

man hath murdered Artesia. Sylvia made no answer, untill Lenon layd hold on her : demanding, where Artesia was ; she answering : By the enticement of that wicked Floretus, I gave her a Drinke, that unknown to me, hath poisoned her.

Oy wicked Creature, sayd Lenon, thou art condemned thy selfe, and therefore worthily shall thy accused Life make satisfaction for her Death. With that, he began to draw his Sword : but Ornatius thinking it not no time to dally, leass he might by them be murdered, caught hold on Lenons Sword, having such advantage, that he easily loosing it from him, and sayd : Worthy Lenon be advised, doe not thou seeke to spill my innocent blood, without further consideration, leass for the same thou loose thine owne. Thinkest thou I am as faulty and guilty as Floretus is ? No assured I am not. But if thou lovest Justice, lay hands on that Traytor ; for he, not I, is culpable of shedding her innocent blood.

By this time Lenons Servants perceiving their contentions, came running in with their Swords drawn and by their Lords commandement, first apprehended Floretus, and afterwards sought by violence to take Sylvia : but he standing in his owne defence, resisted them, alledging innocency, till Lenon bowed and protested, If he were not necessarie thereto, he should have no other than Justice, that his cause should be heard before the King.

Ornatius thought it better to save his faire meanes, rather than by compulsion ; and esteeming it lesse grieffe to be made a Prisoner, than to betray where Artesia was, and so have her taken from him, yielded : both of them being conveyed to the Pallace, and for that Night committed to severall Prisoners.

Floretus being thus in durance, his Conscience so deeply accused him of Villany, that he continued causing and exclaiming against his hard fortune, and with bitter bannings rage against himselfe, for trusting Sylvia, with extreame feare of death he seemed to be altogether desperate.

Ornatius

Ornatus and Artesia.

Ornatus on the other side tooke that trouble patiently, as endured for Artesias sake; fearing nothing, for that he knew himself innocent, and could easily acquit himself of such accusation purposing rather to hazard the worst than betray who he was: which to conceal was his greatest care.

The next day they were brought before the Prince: where Florentius upon Sylvias accusation, confessed the truth, both concerning Artesia, and how he slew Arbastus: for which he was adjudged to dy within two dayes. And (quoth he) to Sylvia, for that thou art a stranger, and by his counsell, rather than of thine own inclination, wert vnto me unwittingly to do that deed, I wil pardon thy life, but adudge thee to be banished this country. And (quoth he) because I fear that some will seek thy life thou shalt presently be conveyed hence: which done shall stand irrevocable.

Then gave he commandement she should be conveyed to the Haven presently: committing her to the custody of certain rude Boats: who not staying to hear what answer she would make (whereof poor Ornatus was not readily provided in that extremity) immediately carried her away. To whom Ornatus would have told the truth of all: but he spake to them that understood him not. Who with speed executing the Sovereign command, rudely haled her aboard, and hoisting sail never rested, until they arrived near the Coast of Patolia, where they were commanded to leave her.

The most pleasant History of

CHAP. IX.

Of the sorrow *Artesia* tooke for *Ornatus* Banishment: and of the severall Adventures befell him in *Naxos*.



Artesia remaining in *Adellenaes* House, marvelled she heard not from *Ornatus*, according to his promise, which gave her into some doubt of his safety: that coming to *Adellena*, she desired her to haste to the Lodge, to intreat him to come to her, for by her hearts misdoubt, she suspected some heavey newes. *Adellena* immediately hasted thither, finding the Servants in great sorrow: when she asked of them for *Sylvia*. Aye me, quoth one of them, by this time she is past speaking withall: for such heavey newes is befallen since your departure, as griebeth me to utter: Yet notwithstanding, told her all that was happened.

Adellena brooking no delay which in those affaires was dangerous, stood not to reiterate those griefes, and how contrarily every thing fell out; but with all haste returned to *Artesia*: who espying her coming, thought her Countenance bewrayed some unwelcome Accident, hastily enquiring how *Ornatus* did: *Adellena* for want of breath could not speak a good space, but at the last she sayd: *Artesia*, tedious lament is not now to be used, but speedy counsell how to save *Ornatus*: for he is carried before the King, and is accused by *Floretus*, to have murdered you: For coming to the Lodge with *Lenon* the Kings sonne, who pretendeth great love to you, and not finding you, *Ornatus* told *Floretus* he had given you the Poison: Whereupon *Floretus* would have slaine him: but *Ornatus* taking his Dagger from him, had done the like to him, had not *Lenon* stept betwixt them. When *Floretus* accused him for your death, and he *Floretus*: and both were yesterday carryed before the King.

Alas,

Ornatus and Artelia.

Alas, poor Ornatus, said Artelia, what misery is befallen thee for my sake? how art thou rewarded for preserving my life? Good Adellena, counsell me what is to be done: Ornatus being among them a reputed stranger, having no friend to plead for him, and peradventure over-swayed by Floretus perjury, may have his life endangered, and the rather, because he is taken to be a Natolian. Therefore Adellena, if thou lovest him or me, save both his and my life, and discharge him of that false accusation, runne to the Court, and there find out Lenon, tell him of my safety and request him for my sake to pittie poor Silvia, Adellena according to her commandement mounted a horse, and with great speed by that time it was night arrived at the Court, and finding out Lenon, uttered these speeches: Most worthy Lenon vouchsafe to hear me speak, the fair Artelia, whom you supposed dead, is alive, and in safety at my house who hath sent me to you, in the behalf of Silvia, fearing some wrong might be done unto her, as suspected to be guilty of her death, when she onely hath preserved her life.

Lenon was so amazed at her speeches that he could not tell what to say, being exceedingly grieved for Silvia, but at length told her what his father had done; which appalled her senses with deadly fear. Lenon, notwithstanding it something grieved him for Silvia, yet his heart was glad to heare of Arteliaes safety, and therefore he determined to go with Adellena to visite her; which likewise he performed, and entering where she was, making exceeding lamentation, he said.

I beseech you grieve not fair Damsell, for Silvia, for no harm is done unto her, only my father upon her own confession and Floretus accusation, hath banished her to her own country.

Artelia hearing his speeches, with very grief fell into a deadly trance, both Lenon and Adellena having much adoe to bring her life again. And being conveyed to her bed when she recovered and came to her self, and Lenon standing by her whose sight was most grievous to her, she turned her head

The most pleasant History of

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Alas,

Ornatus and Artelia.

Alas, pooz Ornatus, said Artelia, what misery is befallen thee for my sake? how art thou rewarded for preserving my life? Good Adellena, counsell me what is to be done: Ornatus being among them a reputed stranger, having no friend to plead for him, and peradventure over-swayed by Floretus perjury, may have his life endangered, and the rather, because he is taken to be a Natolian. Therefore Adellena, if thou lovest him or me, save both his and my life, and discharge him of that false accusation, ruine to the Court, and there find out Lenon, tell him of my safety and request him for my sake to pitty pooz Silvia, Adellena according to her commandement mounted a horse, and with great speed by that time it was night arrived at the Court, and finding out Lenon, uttered these speeches: Most worthy Lenon vouchsafe to hear me speak, the fair Artelia, whom you supposed dead, is alive, and in safety at my house who hath sent me to you, in the behalf of Silvia, fearing some wrong might be done unto her, as suspected to be guilty of her death, when she onely hath preserved her life.

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Artelia hearing his speeches, with very grief fell into a deadly trance, both Lenon and Adellena having much adoe to bring her life again. And being conveyed to her bed when she recovered and came to her self, and Lenon standing by her whose sight was most grievous to her, she turned her
head

The most pleasant History of

head from his sight shedding such abundance of tears, that she bedewed the place where she lay. Lenon perceiuing that she was displeased with his presence, withdrew himself, giving Adellena this charge. Adellena since Artelia is in thy custody, I charge thee let her not depart hence, until thou hearest of me again, for if thou dost thou shalt answer the same, but if thou wilt stand my friend and in my behalf intreat her favou, I will prove so gratefull a friend as thou shalt account thy labour well employed.

He was no sooner gone but Artelia uttered these lamentations: Oost accursed wretch that I am, to be thus separated from my dear love, whose courteous mind is the fountain of all vertue: how unfortunate am I by my fathers death, and my uncles cruelty, but especially by his losse, that is unjustly banished into a strange Country, where he poor true and loyall Gentleman, never set foot: how unhappy was he made, when he first began his love: but now most miserable, by seeking to preserve my life, hath cast away his own, and to be disappointed of my love, hath quite disordered himself from my sight, to hazard his person by Sea and Land.

As it possible that he should ever return being so far conveyed from his native soil and left to the mercies of strange people: that will be ready to destroy his guiltlesse life. No I fear me never shall I be so happy as behold him, and though I do not yett shal my love to him remain immobeeable. Wherefore now will I arm my self to endure all perils, to live in rare and continuall grief for want of my beloved Ornaus, whose heart I know overflows with sorrow, and peradventure misdoubteth my loyalty, having been so unkind unto him before: and knowing Lenons affection, may suppose his dignity might alter my constancy. But sooner shall Ornaus hear of my death, than that I will alter my love, or yeeld his right to another, were he the greatest Potentate in the world.

Which said, another flood of brinish tears overflowed her eyes, and her passage of speech was stoppt by heart-piercing sighings.

Ornatus and Artesia.

sighings, which in confused multitudes issued with her short breath, never ceasing her laments, but still bewailing her true Loves absence, that it pierced Adellenaes heart with such sorrow, that shee wept as well as Artesia, both being so much grieved, that they seemed to stribe how to exceede one another in sorrow. In which sorrowfull estate Artesia remained so long, that shee waxed extreame sick: and grew to that extreanuty, that Adellena feared her death.

Lenon likewise being come to the Court, got pardon of his Father for Floretus death, but notwithstanding he remained in prison all the dayes of his life. Lenon likewise hearing of Artesias sicknesse refrained from visiting her, onely he would oftentimes repaire to Adellenaes house, to enquire how she did,

Ornatus being left in the country of Natolia, tooke his misfortunes in such heavy sort, that had not his hope to see Artesia again withheld him, he had laid violent hands upon himself, for a season giving himself to sorrow and carelesse desperation, neither regarding which way to provide for his safety, nor otherwise respecting what danger hee might runne into, in that strange Country, for the Moores had landed him in a vast and desolate coast of the Country.

Thus carelesse did he continue a whole night and a day, not so much as seeking food to preserve him from famine: but in the end, hunger constrained him to seek succour, but when his stomack served him, he could find no meat, that with the extreanuty thereof, calling to remembrance his estate, he thus bewailed his sad condition.

Thus Fortune contrary to nature, deals with her subjects, sometimes hoysing them to the top of all felicity, and then with violence tumbling them down headlong into the depth of extreame misery and despair.

Was ever man more fortunate & suddenly miserable than I am? Could ever any man whatsoever, attain more heavenly felicity and happynesse than I did, by being posses of Artesia,

The most pleasant History of

and now again more accurst, being thus far absent from her, and banished my native soyle, into a strange country, ready to be famished and deuoured by wild beasts, or that which is worst, neuer likely to see Artelia again. How could any man contain himself from desperatenesse, being so miserable as I am? How can I withhold my hands from murthering my selfe, when by doing it, I shall be rid out of a wretched life?

What should I do: which way should I go? Here I am in an unfrequented place, where no humane creatures inhabit, but wild beasts; without food, without weapons, in womans apparell, and without hope of comfort. Shall I stay here, then shall I be famished: shall I leave this place and trauell further, then I go further from my beloved, and meeting with some ravenous beast, may be deuoured. Now being hungry I want food, and here is none, unlesse I will eat the earth, leaues of trees, or roots of the grasse. Well I will seek my fortune, be it good or ill: and in this desperate mood he travelled on, and by good fortune found a tree laden with exceeding pleasant and goodly fruit, with which he satisfied his hunger, not far from which place he took up his nights lodging.

Scarcely the next morning he arose, first filling his belly, and then his lap with that pleasant fruit, the taste whereof was like pleasant wine that being drunk in abundance, will make the head light: which made Ornatus heart merry. that he travelled on a pace. But Fortune not contented with the misery he endured already, sent him another affliction: he entred into a place like a Forrest, beset with trees of huge proportion, scattered here and there, where he met with a wild and fierce Boare that haunted those Deserts: who espying Ornatus, with a terrible groyning, bristled himself, comming towards him. Ornatus being now driuen to his uttermost shifts, began to runne with all his force from the beast: but he making the more speed, had almost overtaken him, when one of the Apples Ornatus carried about him, fell down, and the Boar espying the same, stayed his hast to take it up, whereby Ornatus had gotten some little ground of him, & seeing him so
much

much ased the fruit, cast downe another Apple, after which the Boare ran with greedinesse devouring the same. Ornatus was glad of this poore gift, and still cast downe one Apple, & then another, that in the end he had almost thzowen away all, & notwithstanding that feared to be destroyed: But the Boare feeling his belly full, & his hunger allayed, left off his eager pursuit, and followed him more carelesly; whom he still fed with Apples, so long as his store lasted: that in the end the Boare being dzunke with the pleasant fruit, began to reele & stagger & lying down fell fast asleep.

Which Ornatus seeing, having no other then a knife about him, with the same approached the Boare, and without feare, violently thrust the same so deepe into the Boares bristled side, that it pierced his heart; and he, after some struggling, dyed.

Ornatus then held up his hands to Heaven for joy, exceedingly applauding this his fortunate and unexpected escape; which he tooke as a fortunate preface of good successe. But yet before he could determine what to do, Fortune once againe shewed her mutability: For when Ornatus had parted the Boares head from his huge body, and with the same was ready to depart, there past by, as it seemed a knight gallantly mounted in greene Armour; who espying a Woman bearing the Boares head, drew towards her, and said: Woman, where hadst thou that Boares head: I pray thee deliver it me. Ornatus made this answer: Sir I need not do either unlesse I know more cause then as yet I do. The knight hearing that short answer, alighted, and said: I will shew no other reason but that I will have it. With that he began to strive for the same: but Ornatus having more mind to his Sword, then to keep the Boares head, suddenly caught hold thereof, and drew the same out; which when he had gotten he said: Disloyall and discourteous knight, now will I keep the Boares head in despight of thee. With that he thrust at him, and contrary to his thought wounded him so deep, that he left him for dead; wishing, that hee had not done that deed: but not knowing how discourteously

The most pleasant History of

he would have used him, let passe all further remorse, and casting off his womans apparell, put on the Knights apparell, and armour, mounted the Steed, and with the Boars head robe back the same way he saw the Knight come, and within a little space, found a beaten way that conduced him to a goodly Town, whose Turret tops he saw long befoze he came to the same: then began he to study what to doe, sometimes thinking it best not to enter into the town, from whence it was likely the Knight he slew came, and so he being taken for him might be known, and so afterwards endangered for his death: For peradventure the Knight might be of good estimation and of purpose sent to slay the Boar, and if it should be known that he had slain him his friends would for the same, and the rather for that he was a stranger, prosecute tharp revenge against him.

Whilist he was in these meditations, he came near the town, not fully resolved what to do, where he was soon espied of some of the people, who seeing the Boars head, came running towards him, making exceeding joy: which when he saw, he thought it too late to turn back, but that he must go on and hazard the worst: and being entred the town, a number of the inhabitants flocked about him, some with garlands, some with prayes, and all with joy, uttering these speeches: Welcome home most brave Alprinus.

Ornatu then perfectly knew, that the Knights name was Alprinus, and went of purpose to slay the Boar, whom they took him to be, and that he must of necessity be known; which brake him into an exceeding care what excuse to make to avoid the danger of death.

When presently he beheld a troop of beautifull Damzels, with the sounds of sweet Musick comming towards him, amongst whom, one as chief, and more beautifull than the rest, was crowned with a garland of flowers, bearing another in her hand, who all at once applauded his victory, dancing befoze him, untill he came to the middelt of the town, where sate the chief Magistrate, where the Damzel that was crowned thus spake unto him.

Sir

Ornatuſ and Lucida.

Sir Alprinus, your conqueſt hath releaſed the Inhabitants of care, extolled thy name, preſerved thy life, and won me for thy Love. You have well performed the taſke you undertooke, and according to your deſert, I come to Crown you with theſe flowers, and to yeeld my ſelf as yours for ever.

Ornatuſ hearing her ſpeeches thought to try the end of this adventure, which could be no worſe than death. which of force he muſt now hazard. alighted. laying down the Woꝛes head upon a Table that ſtood befoze the Ancients, with humble and comely behaviour kiſſing the Damoſels hand, who ſet the wreath of flowers upon his head, and taking him by the hand, brought him befoze the Ancients, one of whom ſtood up and ſaid: Worthy Gentleman whereas befoze thou wert by us adjudged to die, as woꝛthy thereof, for this thy valiant deed we freely pardon thee, and acquit thee from all trespafſes that thou haſt committed againſt any whomſoever untill this preſent hour.

And taking the Damzell by the hand, ſaid: Lucida, according to thy deſire and his deſert I yeeld thee to be his wife. And Gentleman (quoth he) take her as thine own, as freely as ſhe was by birth adopted mine: and after my death be thou inheritor of my lands.

To all this Ornatuſ gave a free conſent, and the night now approaching. hee with Lucida went to her Fathers houſe, where was a great feaſt provided: from which Ornatuſ excuſed himſelf in this ſort: When hee was entered the houſe being ſtill Armed, onely liſting up his Beaver, he took Lucida by the hand, and withdrawing her aſide, ſaid.

Lucida, I now know your love to be infallible, and your conſtancy above all womens that I have known: and that Alprinus is ſo far indebted unto you, as that he ſhal never (might he live a thouſand years) be able to recompence this inestimable favor of your love, which hath preſerved my unworthy life from deſtruction.

But notwithstanding, your love Alprinus his debt is

The most constant History of

so great, as can no way be gratified: I request one further favour at your hands, whereon my chiefest felicity dependeth, yea, my life, your Love, and perpetuall Good: which I fear to utter least you should misconceive the same, there being no other thing to hinder the content Alpinus seeketh, but onely your favourable consent, to banish all mistrust of my faith.

Lucida marvelled at his speeches: indeed loving him so well, that she would have spilt her own blood for his sake saying: Alpinus what need you make doubt of my consent, to any thing whatsoever it be, for your sake? Know you not how faithful I have continued, though you slew my onely brother, and that I esteemed your love far dearer then his life: and when you should have died for that deed, obtained this at my fathers and the rest of the Ancients hands. That slaying the Wore that had slain many people, you should save your owne life, and win me as your love.

And notwithstanding all this, do you make a question, whether I will yeeld consent to any thing that shall be for your good? O Alpinus, if your love were so constant as mine, if you intended to continue my love for ever, if your heart felt so deep a King of love as mine, you would not make such a doubt of my loyalty, of my truth true love, and constancy: For you know whatsoever you should ask I will grant: whatsoever you should request, I will performe: and wherein so ever a Lover may shew infallible tokens of her truth, I will do as much as any.

But since you wil not believe me without an oath: I swear by my love my unspotted virginity, and all the good I wish my heart, I will consent, agree, performe, or do any thing: nor be offended with any thing, be the news never so unwelcome, so it be for Alpinus good nor leave any thing unperformed you shall require.

Ornatus hearing with what constancy her speeches proceeded from her, and how grievously she conceived it, that any doubt should be made of her loyalty, thought most certainly that he might put his life into her hands, and therefore having already

alreadie studied a device for it: It ill agreeth with my nature to dissemble, and hardly can I have been drawn thereto, but that desire to preserve love drew me thereto: for know most worthy Lucida, that I am not Alpinus, but one that for his sake hath undertaken this: The truth whereof, if thou wilt hear with patience I will declare.

Yesterday I travelled through the Forrest, or desert, where I met Alpinus, sore wounded and flying from the Boar, that pursued him with celerity, which when I beheld, to rescue him from death, I set upon the Boar, and by good fortune slew him: which when he beheld, he declared to me his cause of his coming: which when I heard pittying estate I bid him take the Boars head: and withal, helped him to mount his Steed, but his wounds would not suffer him to ride, that I was in some fear of his life. When presently we beheld an ancient Hermite coming towards us, who lived in a Cave in these Woods, and undertook to cure his wounds, being glad of the Boars death. To whose Cell I conveyed Alpinus: at whose request, I have performed this which you see, and have undertaken to hazard my life, to discharge him of death, and to win the assured possession of your love.

Now I most humbly intreat you, for his sake to conceale what I am, that I be not known, and so both disappoint your self of his love, and him of safety. Onely devise a meanes to excuse me from their feast: which I trust you will do for Alpinus sake, and then we may have time to study for your further content.

Lucidaes love made her beleefe that all he said was true, and therefore said: Sir, I trust there is no cause why I should mistrust you: and therefore relying upon the truth of that which you have said, I will tell my father you are wounded, and desire rather to go to your Chamber, than to the Feast, who I know will deny me nothing. This said, she went to her Father, and so prevailed with him, that he was contented she should have the sending of him: whom she took to a Chamber, suffering none to come at him, but her maid, whom

The most pleasant History of

she trusted and well might trust for her fidelity. Afterwards Lucida came to Ornatus, to determine how she might come to see Alpinus, being most careful of his health: and amongst many other speeches, they concluded that Ornatus the next morning should depart the Forrest: to Alpinus, and that shee by some meanes would come thither the next day after, if he would meet her, to give her directions where to find him: which he promised to do. According to this agreement, Ornatus very early the next morning Armed himself, and as Lucida had instructed him, took his leave of her Father: who little suspecting he had been any other then Alpinus, gave his consent: and so Ornatus in Alpinus Armour again departed the Town, being glad he was escaped from death. which hee was sure to have indured, if it had been any wayes known that he had slain Alpinus.

And being now alone by himself having the wide world to trabel in, but never a friend to go to, void of fear, but not of care, he studied whither to direct his journey: sometime his conscience accusing him of too much disloyall dealing towards Lucida, in betraying her vertues; dissimulation, in telling her Alpinus was living, when hee knew the contrary.

Then he contrarily thought, it was lawfull for him to dissemble with her to save his own life, and though he had slain Alpinus, he did it but in defence of his honour.

Amongst all these this cogitation seemed most to acquit him of dishonour, that fortune and the destinies had by that means ordained him to escape. Whilest he rode on in these deep meditations he met with an ancient Hermite, who coming towards him, said: Discourteous Gentleman how camest thou by that Armour: and yet I need not ask thee, for I know thou knowest the worthy Gentleman Alpinus, which I beheld to my grief: Father (quoth Ornatus) if thou dost behold the same, thou canst witnesse I did it against my will, and in my own defence: for whose death I am as sorry as thy self, & would as willingly have done any thing to preserve the same as any man living.

Will you then (said the Hermite) do this for him, vouch safe to come and speake with him, who is in reasonable good estate in my Cell?

I would to God, said Ornatus, thy words were true: for if he be living, it will revive my heart with joy, that is almost vanquish't with care: desiring nothing more, then to see him. He is living, said the Hermite, and if you will go, I will bring you to him presently.

Ornatus being come to the Cell, accordingly found Alpinus very weak, by reason of his grievous wound, to whom Ornatus declared all that happened between him and Lucida: which added no little comfort to Alpinus heart, that he thought himself of sufficient strength to go and meet with her, and therefore told Ornatus, he would go and meet with her: and withall, yielded him so many thanks, as if by his means his life had been preserved.

In the mean time they continued in the old Hermites Cave: Alpinus in great comfort, and Ornatus in no lesse care, for the absence of his dear Artesia, breathing forth many a deep sigh, and uttering many a sad and mournfull lamentation: sometimes utterly despairing of attaining her love, and then again, remembering her vertues, growing into some better confidence of her constancy. Yet most of all, fearing that Lenons love to her, might either by perswasion of his death, force affect of dignity, or by other means win her to consent to him, especially for that shee had no Parents to governe her, nor hee never a faithfull friend to counsell her.

The next day Alpinus and he went out to meet Lucida, whom they met at the entrance into the Forrest, and after many kind salutations past betwixt the two Lovers, they altogether went back into the Town, to Lucidas fathers house, who that morning was departed to a Haven, about business of importance.

Ornatus was most kindly used of them, remaining there untill Alpinus had wooed Lucida: but then he thought it high time for him to depart: And on a time finding Al-

The most pleasant History of

Alpinus alone, who has shewen sufficient tokens of his friendship, he declared unto him the whole truth of his forepassed love to Artesia, requesting his help for his passage into Phrygia.

Alpinus with great regard attended the whole discourse promising his uttermost assistance; which quoth he none can effect so well as Lucida, whose father is a Merchant, and sendeth forth ships into sundry Provinces, who onely may please you: which charge I will undertake, and cause her to deal so effectually with him, that you shall attain your desire. Ornatus continued in good hope somewhat abandoning his former despair, whom for a time we will leave, attending the time that some of the ships should depart, to speak of Artesia his carefull lover.

CHAP. X.

How Lenon caused Artesia by violence to be carried from Adellenaes house to the green Fortres, of the miseries she endured there. How she was rescued from thence by Allinus, and from him taken by Pyrates: and how Allinus, accused by Lenon for her death, was imprisoned.

Now after that Artesia by Adellenaes carefull tendance had somewhat recovered health, Lenon began to visite her again, being unable to endure the heavy burthen of burning love, thinking her sicknesse proceeded from fear of Florentus, not for want of Ornatus company, and finding an occasion saluted her in this sort: Good farewell Artesia, my heart is so firmly enthralled to your beauty, & my affections so admire your vertues, that I am constrained to utter my mind, and to tell you, I so love your beauty, vertues, and other most rare perfections, wherewith you are adorned

doomed, that I humbly sue to you for saour, and prostrate my self your bassall at your feet, desiring to be enriched with these Jewels of inestimable price: which having once attained, I shall think I have more wealth in my possession, then al the world besides my self doth contain. Your unkind uncles cruelty you need not fear, nor other misfortune; neither have you any Parents to over-rule you in making your choise: then vouchsafe to accept my suit, and yeld consent to my love.

My Lord (replied Artesia) I thanke you for your good will, but I know not how to accept your love, being yet so farre from knowing what it is, that if I should but dream thereof, my heart would be out of quiet: besides, many cares, continually attend the same, and my mean estate so farre unworthie thereof, with innumerable other discontents and cares, that I should make my self subject unto, that I had rather a thousand times remain in the estate I am now in. Therefore, I intreat you to settle your love elsewhere, more agreeable to your estate and fancy: for I shall think my self most fortunate, if I never fall into that labyrynth of disquietes; but will, during my life, labour to keep my selfe free from loves hands. Lenon would not take this for an answer: but with many other speeches, continued his suit, whom Artesia still put out of hope: that he departed for that time exceedingly discontented, leaving her no lesse disquieted in thoughts, how to avoid his love.

In this sort did he daily visite her, still growing more importunate: amongst manie other this conference pass betwixt them: Artesia (quoth he) how long shall I sue and be frustrated in my hopes, by your unkindnesse? Is your heart hardened against me: or am I of so base conditions, that you can not conceive well of me? Or is it possible you bear so hatefull a conceit of love as you make shew for? then may I accuse mine eyes that have betrayed my senses, in making them your thall then may I think my love begun, when I first began to love. Artesia, be not so cruell, as to punish me with this disdain.

The most pleasant History of

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The most pleasant History of

My Lord (replied she) I seek not your disquiet: for at the first motion I told you my mind, which shall never alter: neither is my heart hardened against you: more then others: for I am determined not to love: then seeing you see my intent it were a point of wisdoms in you to shake of this fond and foolish love, which is but a toy, and an idle fancy, that is byed by vanitie: and do not seek to make love grow without a root, for in my heart it shall never take root, but rather when it is rooted, I will pull out heart and all, but I will root it out. Then (quoth he) you are led by obstinacy, and not by reason: for that you are subject to love, you cannot deny: then why not me before another, considering my love is more faithfull then any other: And I being most worthy, why should I not be first accepted: Arctesia was weary of his speeches having her constant thoughts bent onely on Orenaus: therefore to rid him from her, she said. It is in vain to use many words neither am I like to those, that will at the first seem coy, but afterwards yeeld: but I desire you to bee satisfied with that which I have already said, that I cannot love.

Fair Damocell, how can I be satisfied with that unreasonable answer, when my life dependeth on your consent: which your deniall will finish: Then give me leave to say I cannot be so satisfied: but being extreanly refused, I must grow perforce to be as unreasonable in my requests. Consider you not what dignity I might advance you to, by making you my wife: consider you not the pleasures, joyes, and abundance of all contents you may enjoy with me, and how faithfully I love you, and with what humility I seek your love: and yet notwithstanding you remain obdurate: My power is great, that whereas I sue, I might command: and by authority compell you to consent: then be not so overconceited, as so obstinately to reject your good, and think, that if my love were not constant, I might use extreame which might soon alter your mind.

Suppose (replied Arctesia) I were so peevish as you term me, yet being bozn free, I am not to be made bound by constraint:

Strait : and were you the greatest King in the world, you could not rule the heart, though you might by injustice punish the body : for it is not Kingdomes wealth, nor cruelty, can turn hatred to love, but it may soon turn love into hatred. But by your speeches I may partly know your thought, and the lips utter what the heart intendeth: do with me what you will, I cannot love : neither will I love you, were you Emperour of all the World.

Lenon was so much grieved and vexed at her speeches, that he was ready to teare his haire, his loves extremitie making him rather mad than sober, that presently he departed, saying no more but this : farewell hard hearted Artelia.

She was glad he was gone, presently telling Adellena all that had past betwixt them, and how peremptorily she had answered his importunate suit : telling Adellena that since Ornatus was for her sake banished, she would never love any but him, and preferre her life in hope to see him again; but the first knowledge of his death, should be the latest date of her life : both she and Adellena thinking that Lenon would never return to prosecute his love.

But hee being come to the Palace, betook himself to his chamber, raging more like a mad-man, then a passionate lover : sometime swearing, cursing and stamping, yielding so much to that mad fancy, that in the end he vowed to obtaine Artelias love, though he hazarded his life, honour and good name: that raging in this sort up and down his chamber, he espied an old Gentlewoman named Flera, going by his window, whom he called unto him, and thus said : Flera, because I have assured confidence in thy fidelity, and purpose to reward thee liberally, I crave thy counsell, and with it thy consent to be faithfull in concealing my secrets, and diligent in doing my command. The old Hag making an evill fashioned low courtse, said : My dear son Lenon, be it to do you good, I will hazard my life, and rather be torn into a thousand pieces, than reveal what you shall vouchsafe to tell me.

Then (quoth he) counsell me which way I should begin to

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The most pleasant History of

win a fair Damzels love : Harry my Lord (quoth she) give her knowledge thereof, and then with fair speeches wooe her: if that will not prebail, give her gold, and there is no doubt, but that fair bait will catch her.

No no (quoth he) these are of no force : I have made my love known to her by humble suits, submisſe behaviours, and by all kind of courteous meanes intreated her consent : yet for all that, she remaineth obstinate : she is rich, and therefore Gold with her is of no force : she is faire, vertuous, noble and chaste, then what engine hast thou to undermine that chastity.

Meanes enough (quoth shee) peradventure she is ruled by others counsell, which may prebail more than your suit : but might I have access unto her, I would not doubt but to alter her mind : for being faire, young and rich, she cannot chuse but delight to be praised ; subject to love, and therefore yeld to desire.

Doeſt thou think (quoth he) thou couldest win her, wert thou her Keeper ? I warrant you (quoth she) I would doe it. Then shalt thou be her Keeper: ſee that thou beest to morrow at my fathers castle in the green forrest, where to morrow by night this Damzel shall be, whose name is Artesia, daughter to Arbastus lately dead : use her kindly, let her want nothing, nor be not in any wise known, that thou knowest me, nor that the Castle belongeth to my father ; nor speak not of love in any case : use her in this sort, untill I speak with thee, for thou onely shalt have her custody.

Flera being gone about her businesse, he found out two of his trustiest servants, to whom he imparted both his mind & intent : willing them on the next morning with speed to go to Adellenaes house, and either by force or fair meanes to take Artesia from thence, and carry her unto the green Forrest, in the Greene Forrest, where they should find Flera, to whose custody they should commit Artesia : and themselves should remain there, to provide all things necessary, untill his coming.

Earlye the next morning, the servants rode to Adellenaes house

Ornatus and Artesia.

house, whereinto they boldly entred, and comming to Artesia, first spake her faire, but afterwards told her she must go with them, if not willingly, by constraint. Artesia then began to burst into tears, weeping and lamenting exceedingly, upon knees intreating them, not to offer by violence to carry her from thence, but if they would needs, that they would take Adellena with them: but all was in vaine, for they constrained her to mount up behind one of them, and away they rode in great hast. This heavy parting was so sudden, that Artesia could not bid Adellena adue, but with tears, nor Adellena speak word for grief, their senses being so far confounded with a care, that their hearts were ready to burst therewith. Artesia thought it was Lenons doing and therefore sorrowed the more, not that he used her unkindly, but that he loved her: not fearing his cruelty, but his lust: not regarding what cruelty he could use by hatred, but fearing his love would make him seek her dishonour.

Being come to the fortreffe, and committed to the custody of Flera, the old woman began to speak her faire, and use her kindly, yet her very words and countenance betwraying her guilty conscience; to whom Artesia would not speak a word, lest thereby she should give her occasion to prate: meate she brought unto her, but she refused to tast thereof; and when she came to her Chamber, she lay on the rushes, refusing the bed, tormenting her heart with care, veering her head with thought, and busying her senses, or meditating to what issue this usage would sort.

Sometimes calling on Ornatus name for comfort: sometimes accusing Lenon of barbarous cruelty, and cursing her crooked destinies: uttering such plaints as would have turned Tyrants to ruth: weeping her eyes dry, and her Garments wet tearing her hair, and tormenting every one of her senses with veration, refusing sleep, rest ease, or quiet.

The next day Lenon came thither, asking Flera how she fared: who told him that she would not speak, eat, nor sleep, but fared like one mad and senselesse. But let her alone, quoth hee, and you shall see this fit will soon be over, the
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The most pleasant History of

extreamity wherof being once past, I will use my skill to try her.

Lenon giving order to have all things necessary provided, departed, Dinner time being come, and meat set before Artelia, she refused to eat: likewise Supper time being come, she determined to do the like. Which Flera perceiving, said:

Fair Gentlewoman, to behold your outward appearance, would make one judge your mind harboured many hidden vertues: but I comparing your actions with your apparent shew, suppose that you are either mad or carelesse: this behaviour, to seem dumb to refuse sustenance, and to refrain from sleep, are instances of folly, not wisdome. What if you speak, what if you did eat or take rest, should you be ever the worse: or refraining, can that do you good, or banish griefe. and not rather make your estate worse: Doe you thinke to prevent any thing by doing your self harm: No, fond child, eat thy meat, and preserve thy life: for living, thou mayest attain thy desires, but dying, thou art past hope, With that she departed, smiling.

Artelia hearing her speeches, began to consider indeed, what folly it was to refuse her meate: and for feare to shorten her life, by distemp'ring her selfe, which might bee the meanes to further Lenons intent, whom shee knewd would seeke her life, if he could not winne her love: shee presently left off such desperate behaviour, and with well weighed consideration attended the event of the worst misfortune: that from that time shee did both eat her meat, and did all that shee could to comfort her self. Still living in good hope of Ornatuſ return.

Some few dayes after, Lenon came to the Hostresse again, enquiring of Flera how Artelia fared. Well, quoth she, but you willed me to conceal that it was your doing, to bring her hither, and some body else hath told her thereof, for she knoweth the truth as well as your selfe, or I: and therefore I would wish you to visite her, and after that, let me alone to perswade her.

Lenon was ruled by the old Woman, and came where
Artelia.

Ornatus and Artesia.

Artesia was saluting her : but she disdainning either to looke on him, or hear him speak, withdrew her self from his presence : Wherewith hee departed, willing Elera to do that which she had undertaken. And Elera finding her as she thought in a fit mood, began to commune with her of many things, amongst which, love was one.

Artesia a while heard her, but in the end perceiuing her drift, cut her off with these speeches : Old iniquity, I know whereto thy talk tendeth : thinkest thou I will euer harbour a thought of Lenon, that hath used me thus dishonourably? no, rather will I rend my woofull heart from out my breast before his face.

Thou needest not to tell me, that he hath intreated thee to speak for him ; for I know too well both his and thy intent, which shal nothing prevaile, but harden my heart against him. Therefore do not speake to mee for I will not heare thee, nor answer thee ; but hate him, thee, thy counsell and remain so constant in despising him, that a thousand deaths shall not alter me.

Is it Love that hath made him with violence carry mee from my Friends, make mee a Prisoner, and also commit me to the custody of such a Hellish Hagge as thy selfe ? If that be his Love, let him turne it into hatred, and never trouble me but with hating me ; for in so doing he shall better please me.

Often Elera would have replied, but Artesia would not suffer her, that she began to waxe angry, and in the end to plain fury: that running to Artesia, she caught hold on her, and began to tear her Garments from her body, and withall, caught sometimes such firm hold on her pure flesh with her nailles, that the blood followed that Artesia began to shrike for smart.

When the old Belsham had executed some part of her intended revenge and cruelty upon her in this sort, she said : Proud Girl, thinkest thou to bear it away with out saying me? No: do not think I will leave thee thus but thou shalt repent that ever thou camest here, and before I go I

The most pleasant History of

will my mind of thee, then she pulled out a knife, and catching hold on her, swore, that unless she would promise to use Lenon kindly when he next came, she would cut her throat: which draz Artesia into that feare that shee began to intreat her, and speak fair, promising to condescend to any thing that agreed to her honor. Stand not upon these nice fearmes with me (quoth Flera) but here swear to yeeld to love him: for so thou mayest delay him, and frustrate his hopefull expectation, whom thou art not worthy to touch, much lesse to beare such a presuming mind as thou doest in scorn of his love. Therefore yeeld to that which I request or stand to my mercy. Talt thou bestow thy love better, than on so honourable a Prince? Canst thou attain more dignity, reap more content, enjoy more quiet with any, then with him? Then do not deny me for I purpose not to be denied.

Artesia trembling for fear, made this answer onely to satisfie her: I am contented to be ruled by Lenon, whose meaning I know is honourable. Therefore I pray do not offer me this outrage, but suffer me to live in quiet untill his coming. If this will not satisfie you then do the worst you can: for death is more welcome to me then life in these extremities. Well (quoth she) I will try you, but if you dally, beware what will ensue; for I am resolved what to do. Artesia was glad she had satisfied her, though it were with uttering words which she never intended to perform.

Adellena seeing how suddenly Artesia was taken from her, caused one of her servants privily to follow them to the green Fortresse: who returning, told her what he had seen. Then Adellena began to study how to release her from thence, and with all hast rode to Allinus house: where being arrived, she declared all that she knew as concerning Ornatus: and how Lenon had carried Artesia by violence into the green Fortresse. Allinus being glad to heare that Ornatus was alive, promised to redeeme Artesia from Lenons custody. And that to effect, the next Evening caused his men to mount themselves: and himselfe, with some five of them, disguised from being knowne, came to the green

green foztresse, and one of them knocking, whilest the other hid themselves, the servants little suspecting any such ambush or intent, opened the gate, when presently they rushed in, and soon found out Artesia, whom Allinus told who he was, and to what intent he came. Artesia was glad thereof, and willingly yeelded to go with him: but the old woman made such an out-cry, that all the place rung thereof. One of Allinus servants seeing she would not be pacified, drew his sword, and thrust it through her body; and so with a pelling cry she gave up the Ghost.

When presently Allinus departed with her, intending to carry her to his own house, to keep her there unknown, untill he could hear of Ornatus. And remembryng that the two servants were fled, and would no doubt certifie Lenon what was done. would not go back the same way he came, though the readiest; for then he thought he should meet them; but went a more secret way, thinking by that means to passe unseen: and entering into the plaines where cattrell fed, Allinus espied a company returning towards them, whom he suspected to be Lenon, which in reason he could not think, but that fear perswaded him thereto: The company likewise espying them, who were certain Pyzates, that were wandred from their ships to steal cattel, wondered what they should be that were so late abroad, and being ready to any mischief, set upon Allinus and his company.

Allinus thinking it had been Lenon, would by no meanes yeeld nor speak, fearing he should descry them, but resisted the Pyzates: who being used to many such meetings, soon slew two of Allinus servants, and had given himself so many grievous wounds, enforcing him to yeeld: who taking from him all that was good, and constraining Artesia to go with them, halsted to their ships, when having conveyed her aboard, to prevent the worst, hoysed sail, and lanchd into the deep.

Then was Allinus left in most miserable estate, with all speed hastning to his house. Lenons servants likewise were by that time it was midnight, gotten to the wallace, and called their Lord out of his bed, to certifie him what was hap-

The most pleasant History of

pened: who presently mounted himself, and with a sufficient company rode to the Fortresse; and entering, found Flera slain, and all else fled.

Then began he to muse who should do that deed, and what they should be that had carried away Artesia: by this time it was day light, and Lenon rested in exceeding veneration to be so dispossessed of his beautifull love; yet he commanded his men to pass by companies severall wayes, if it were possible to find those that had done that deed, whilst he himself remained there, bewailing that misfortune.

His servants had not rode far but (by the light of the day, which discovereth things done in darknesse) they found Allinus two servants whose dead bodies they carried back to the Fortresse. Lenon seeing them, presently assured himself that Allinus was a party in this action, and that he had taken away Artesia, to seek her death. To prevent which mischief (as he thought then or never to be done) he presently rode home to the Court, and humbly upon his knee intreated his father to grant him license with a sufficient power, to rescue Artesia from Allinus, who intended to murder her: declaring how he himself found her in Adellenaes house and how that he had placed her in the green Fortresse, to defend her from Allinus and others cruelty, being left fatherlesse, and how that night Allinus had taken her from thence by treason, and intended no less then her ruine. The King hearing his sons speeches, granted his request.

Then presently divers, to the number of three hundred men, with as much speed as could possibly be, armed themselves, and in hast with Lenon went to Allinus Castle: into which they violently, and unawares to any within, entered.

Lenon presently laid hands on Allinus, whom he found sore wounded, asking him for Artesia: who thinking that some of his servants had bewrayed before what he had done, presently confessed the truth of all, both of his intent, and how Artesia was rescued from him but by whom he knew not, and how at that time two of his servants were slain.

Lenon

Ornatuſ and Arreſt.

Lenon giving credit to his ſpeeches, never left till he had ſearched the whole Caſtle throughout. but not finding her, accuſed Allinuſ that he had murdered her, commanding his men to bind him, and carry him as a Traitor to the Court. Who being come before the King, confeſſed the truth as before he had done, utterly denying, that he never ſought Arceſiaes death, but her ſafety: But yet notwithſtanding the King was ſo over-ruled by Lenons accuſations that he committed him to priſon, his Goods and Lands were ſeized upon as a Traitor, his Lady wife turned out of doores in poor array, and all cruelty and outrage committed againſt his Seruants and Kinſfolks and commandement giuen, that none ſhould ſuccor them.

Allinuſ being in priſon laden with Irons and hardly uſed, yet endured that affliction patiently: but hearing of his Ladies calamity, and how ſhe was unjuſtly conſtrained to beg, that all her life had bene tenderly brought up, thought thoſe ſorowes would ſoon bring her to her end and entred into many bitter lamentations for her and his own miſfortune, which were too tedious to recite. His ſeruants were conſtrained to diſguiſe themſelves, and travell into further places of the Country, to liue unknown; otherwiſe, none would have entertained them. His Lady was compelled to ſeek out a poor man of hers, that liued in the Country: of whom ſhe was entertained, and there liued a poor life, ſcarce differing from her former life, which ſhe took moſt patiently.

And thus was Allinuſ houſe defaced, his Goods and Lands ſeized upon, himſelfe impriſoned, his wife in poor eſtate, his ſeruants giuen to wander from place to place, ready often to periſh for want of ſuccor, & al his dignity turned to miſery, only by Lenons malice: who had no ground for thoſe accuſations he uſed againſt him, but onely of a vain ſuppoſe, and mad fantaſtick affection that over-ruled his heart: which ſo preuailed with him that he ſought by all means he could, his death.

The most pleasant History of

CHAP. XI.

How Ornatus got shipping into Phrygia. How Allinus was set at liberty: and how the Pyrates cast lots who should possesse Arctesia.



Ornatus all this while remained in the Country of Natolia, with Alprinus and Lucida, in great griefe for want of means to depart into Phrygia to see what was become of his dear love Arctesia: But being a long time frustrated, by reason none of the Ships that were at Sea came home, he began to despair: thinking that Arctesia supposing him dead, by reason of his long absence, would now marry Lenon: which griefe, and many other doubtfull thoughts oppress his heart with such passion, that he began to wax sick, and afterwards fell into an exceeding fever, which held him for the space of three moneths in great extremitie: which surely had abridged his dayes, had he not ben most carefully nourished by Lucida, who had an especiall care of his good.

During which time of his sicknesse, certain ships of Phrygia landed on the coast of Natolia, some fourteen miles distant from the towne where Ornatus was, of which hee had intelligence by certain factors belonging to Lucidaes father. Which newes revived his spirits with joy, before dying with care, that within few dayes he recovered his former health: which greatly rejoyced Alprinus and Lucida, whose hearts were linked unto him in bands of unseparable friendship: who likewise dealt so effectually for him, that they attained warraunt for his passage, and furnished him with all kind of necessaries and sufficient stoe of Gold to bear his charges.

Lucida likewise intreated her father to agree with the Phrygian Merchants for his convoy, for that himself would not be known

known diſguiſing himſelfe in the habit of a Pilgrim, w^hich kind of people might without diſturbance paſſe uneramined, and without moleſtation. And the time of his departure being come, he took his leave of Lucida, who took his departure with ſuch exceeding ſorrow, that the abundance of her flowing tears ſtopt the paſſage of her ſpeech. Alprinus likewiſe with many courteſies bad him farewel, and wiſhed his proſperous ſucceſſe. Thus departed he the confines of Natolia, where he was in ſo ſhort ſpace ſo well beloved, and ſo kindly uſed, that had not his love to Arreſia, and hope to find her in ſafety conſtrained him, he could have been contented to have ſpent the term of his life in that place.

The Merchants of Phrygia had not ſayled many dayes, but they arrived in a haven ſome ten miles diſtant from the Court, whither Ornatuſ determined to travel: and having taken his leave of the Parriners, and paid them their due, furniſhed with all things fit for his diſguiſe, he took his journey, and the firſt night lodged at a village near adjoining to his fathers caſtle, the cuſtome of which place he well knew before, and therefore framed his behaviour according. And being ſet at Supper amongſt ſuch Gueſts as lodged in that houſe with him the Hoſt named Milo ſuddainly ſighed, which one of them noting, demanded what inward grief dvaine him thereto: Harry ſir quoth he; if you have not heard the newes I will tell you ſo much as I know, which I would I had never known. Within few dayes there dwelt an ancient knight hereby, named Allinuſ, exceedingly well beloved of all men, who is lately ſalne into great miſery, the occaſion whereof is this.

When did he declare the manner of all that had happened to Allinuſ, how Arreſia was taken from him, but by whom, no man knew himſelf in priſon, his goods conſiſcated, and his wife and ſervants turned out of doores, with command that none ſhould ſuccour them.

Ornatuſ heart was ſo pincht with this newes, that he was ready to fall under the table: which old Mylo and the reſt noted, perceiving ſuch a change of countenance in him that they

The most pleasant History of

they all deemed him to be exceeding sick : but he fearing to discover himselfe, told them it was but an ordinary courſe with him to be ſo troubled.

But being unable to mitigate that paſſion he roſe from the Table, and came to his chamber : where being alone, he began to meditate the depth of theſe miſchances imputing the original thereof to proceed from himſelfe, that he entred into theſe bitter plaints : My miſfortunes are without compare and I more miſerable than any wretch living: By my evil Deſcenties Arctelia was firſt left in miſery, afterwards impriſoned, and now ſurpriſed by thoſe that will intend her ruine or diſhonour : my Father impriſoned, my Mother baniſhed, and all his lands, livings, ſervants, and friends taken from him, and he ſubject to Lenons merrey, that is mercileſſe, cruel, deceitfull and malicious.

Duely by my folly are theſe miſchances befallen. Can there be any more wretched than my ſelf? Hath not my Father cauſe to wiſh that hee had never begotten mee, and my Mother that ſhe had never borne me? Hath not Arctelia cauſe to accuſe me, hate me, and forſake me, when for my ſake, by my folly and want of wiſedome ſhe is brought to ſo many miſeries?

What ſhall I do? What remedy ſhall I ſeek, when all things are paſt recure? Whom may I blame but my ſelf? Is there any that are intereſſed in the cauſe of theſe woes, but my ſelf? Lenon, Lenon, as well as my ſelfe, hath procured theſe evils : his affection to Arctelia hath cauſed my baniſhment, my Parents woe, and her loſſe. To travel in her ſearch, and leave my father in priſon, the one will be in vaine, when I know not whether ſhe is conveyed, and the other dangerous to his ſafety : for Lenon, no doubt, of malice will ſeek his death.

In theſe and ſuch like plaints, he ſpent moſt part of that Night.

Early the next morning coming out of his Chamber, he heard a great tumult in that village : the occaſion whereof was this. Such as were Tenants and Friends to Alinus, hearing

hearing of his unjust imprisonment, and with what cruelty Lenon sought his overthrow, assembled themselves together, with purpose to intreat the King for his release; that in the end there was three hundred of them assembled. The common people, such as were idle persons and ready to any attempt, misconceiving their intent, and bearing a mind desirous of liberty, which they thought they were restrain'd from, by certain strict Lawes the King had made gathered unto them, that contrary to their expectation, there was a multitude: the intent of whose assembly being demanded they answered, that they meant to redeem Allinus: Among whom Oratus in his disguise thrust himselfe, using many forcible persuasions to urge them forwards to that attempt, that they were ready to run confusedly to the Court, not regarding danger, nor the displeasure of the King.

One of Allinus friends named Thraus, standing up amongst the rest, craved audience, to whom they all listned, whilest he said.

I perceiue your intent is to release Allinus, wherein you shall shew your love to him and doe a deed worthy to be eternized, for that he hath not at all deserved to have such injustice ministred unto him: therefore be wise in this attempt, and first know against whom you bear arms, that is, against your lawfull King, who may punish this fact with death, for that we undertake to break those lawes which he hath ordained.

But followe my counsell, and I will let you down a course whereby you shall attaine your desire, and be void of any such danger, which is this: First, let us all repaire to the Court, and humbly intreat the King for his release: If he will not grant that, then that he would have his cause tried by the rest of the Wiers of the Land: Which if he also deny, then may we with good cause venture our liues in his rescue. The multitude hearing Thraus, in sign of consent, all cried, Thraus, Thraus shall be our captain.

Then presently every one with such furniture as they had, hastned to the Court, and coming together, woulde not seem to

The most pleasant History of

enter by force, but with a full consent, yielded to Thraxus directions. Who desired one of the Guard to certify his Majesty, that there were a number of his subjects gathered together, with no intent of evil, but onely humbly to crave a boon at his Highnesse hand. The King being certified hereof was much troubled in his mind, what the thing should be they would demand: and being perswaded by Lenon, would not himself come out, but sent one of his Knights to demand what was their request: Thraxus declared to him the cause of their coming, and what they demanded. Which when the King understood being exceedingly enraged at their boldnes, bad the Knight make them this answer. That he was not by his subjects to be controlled, & therefore denyed to perform the least of their demand: commanding them presently to depart every man to their severall places, lest he punished their presumption with death. The Messenger had not scarce ended his words, but presently the unruly multitude began to rush in at the Court gates, some carelessly ruinating what soever came next hand, some breaking down windowes, some assailing such as resisted them, and every one bent to do mischief.

The King fearing the peoples unruly Rebellion would turn to some greater mischief than could be suddenly prevented, and might also endanger his person, not knowing who had incited them thereto, with the Queen and Lenon fled. Which when Thraxus knew, calling to the multitude, he willed them not in any wise to destroy the Kings house, nor attempt any thing more to displease his Majesty, for that the King was departed, and he had Alius at liberty. But notwithstanding, some bent onely to enrich themselves, spoiled the Kings Treasure, and utterly defaced the Kings house: by which time the night drew nigh and every one began to withdraw themselves. Alius seeing what exceeding mischief this attempt had bred, which was done contrary to his thought, & without his consent: yet thought it not best to trust to the Kings mercy, though he was never so innocent: for notwithstanding that, he would suppose it was done by his procurement:

Ornatus and Artesia.

ment: therefore (after Thralus had willed the unruly multitude to depart as secretly as they could, every one to his house to prevent further danger, and save their lives, by keeping themselves unknown) he and Thralus that night without delay, disguised themselves, and fled towards the coast, to get shipping for Armenia, whither they intended to trabel.

Ornatus was by, and beheld all this, glad of his fathers escape, not purposing at all to discover himself, until he had found Artesia, in whose search he meant presently to trabel: but such confused thoughts whither to direct his steps, did so overwhelm his conceits, that he rested like one metamorphosed, not knowing whether he should seek her by Sea, or by Land: By sea he thought his labour would be in vain; and if he should go to find her by land, he knew not whether she might be at sea, and so conveyed into foreign countries.

At last remembering he had heard Mylo say, she was rescued from Allinus in the Desert where his cattel fed, he determined to trabel thither, though he had little hope to find her there: and being come thither, sometimes bewailing her absence, accusing his hard fortune, breathing forth bitter sighes in remembrance of her losse, and renewing the remembrance of their love, he spent some three dayes in that place uttering those Plaints to the Trees and Birds, for otherwise there was none to hear him: Where for a while we will leave him.

The Pirates having as is before said taken Artesia from Allinus, and with her such wealth as they could find about them: having withal furnished themselves with the spoil of such cattel as fed in those places, returned to their ship, and with hast hoysed sail.

The night being now past, one that was chief amongst the rest, named Luptates, went down to view Artesia, having as yet not seen her beauty, by reason of the night: and now comming near her, and beholding her divine form, his mind was presently ravisht with that sight, & he thought that none but himself should enjoy her: which took such efficacy, that whereas before he intended nothing but her Dishonour, his

The most pleasant History of

mind was now altered, & he intended to use her in most re-
verent and decent sort, & not by cruelty but courtesie to win
her love. But beholding her tears and exceeding lamentati-
on, and how impatiently she endured the extremities she was
driven unto, comming towards her with a most submisſe ge-
ſture, friendly countenance and gentle ſpeech, he ſaid.

ffair Lady, be not any thing diſquieted that you are made
captiue to ſuch as delight in ſpoile: for though our minds are
otherwiſe bent to all incivillity, yet to your ſelf ſhal no wrong
be offered, ſuch vertue hath your beauty imprinted in my
heart & whereas heretofore without mercy, both I & the reſt of
my conſorts have not regarded the plaints, diſtreſſe nor what
wrong we have offered either to Lady or Damsel: yet towards
your ſelf is my heart altered, and my meaning honeſtly bent:
that I aſſure you not onely of quiet & to be void of all wrong
by us to be done: but alſo wherein ſoever I may work your
will, quiet, eaſe or deſire, I will moſt willingly imploy my
uttermoſt endeavours. When I beſeech you mitigate theſe
cares baniſh this ſorrow and dry up your tears: for you have
no cauſe of care, nor occaſion of ſorrow: but rather to ſay, this
vertue reſteth in me, to alter rude and barbarous mindes to
civill and vertuous behaviour.

Arceſia looking earneſtly upon him, being endued with an ex-
ceeding wit, & thinking it beſt to ſpeak him fair that uſed her
ſo kindly, ſaid: Sir, I know not how to mitigate my grief
when it increaſeth: or how can I be void of care, unleſſe I
ſhould grow altogether careleſſe, being onely ſubject to woe &
none ſo unfortunat as my ſelfe, having endured ſo many af-
ſiſtions & croſſes in all reſpects, & I know not how to aſſure
my ſelf of the leaſt quiet: When give me leave to continue my
endleſſe plaints, & do not blame me of impatience, nor think
I ſuſpect your ſpeeches or diſtruſt your ſweetneſſe, if in the ſort
I continue my ſorrow: for I have ſo long continued in the, as
I can better away the than miſery for I to me is a ſtranger.
Yet notwithstanding, my heart will harbour ſome quiet if by
your courtesie I may reſt in ſecurity, & be ſheltered from wrong.
By this time they were arrived at their place of harbor, which
was

Ornatus and Artesia.

was betwixt the hollows of two rocks, or rather rocky Islands, where their ship lay safe from weather, & so far under their shadow that it could not be seen: themselves obeying such wealth as they from time to time got, in hollow caves, of great largeness, where was all things necessary. And having fastned their ship, the rest of Luprates fellows cal'd him up: who came, and brought Artesia into the cave; who beholding y^e same, was surprised to an exceeding discomfort of ever getting from thence.

Some of the ruder sort liking Artesia, began their rude behaviour towards her: but Luprates stepping unto them, uttered these speeches: My masters, thus long have I lived your captain in this place with care respecting your good as much as mine own and taking but an equal share with you, of such Prizes as we have taken and rather the least part: now onely in respect of my faith & fidelity, I request to have this damzel as my Prize: the rest of the Wealth take you: in doing which, you shall bind me unto you for ever.

One of the rest liking Artesias beauty as well as her, and of a more rude mind, disdainning y^e he alone should have her in possession, said: Captain, all which you say we confesse to be true, neither hath our care been any way lesse than yours, therefore there is no reason why you should claim any peculiar priviledge above any of us: besides, you know we made a law, and bound our selves to perform the same by oath, which was: That none should possess any thing, without the general consent of all. Then perform those conditions, and let her belong to us all or to the chiefest of us and in so doing neither of us shall sustain wrong. Thus began they to contend about Artesia: every one desirous to possess her, and yet neither willing any should have her but himself, that they were likely to multiply and fall out: til at the last they concluded to cast lots, and she fell to Luprates share, that was the most worthy of that priviledge, for that he bare the most vertuous mind.

Thus for a time this strife was ended, and Artesia was by Luprates kindly used for many dayes: in the end their victuals began to waite, and they thought it high time to seek for more, that they determined to fetch in some, as before they had done.

But

The most pleasant History of

But then began Luprates to take care in whose custody to leaue Artesia, lest in his absence they should do her wrong. Amongst the rest he chose out one whom he thought fittest and to him he committed her: by whose means Artesia rested void of disturbance, though not void of exceeding care, that continually tormented her: fearing neuer to see Ornatus again nor to be released from that place of bondage.

CHAP. XII.

How Ornatus found Artesia, and preserved her life: and how she was taken from him againe by Lenon: and what afterwards befel.

Luprates and the rest being landed, came in the night into the plains to steal cattel, and by chance lighted on the place where Ornatus hanted, being directed to him by the sound of his lamentations. Luprates demanded what he was: I am (quoth he) a most miserable creature, by misfortune drawn to all extremity. When (quoth he) thou art not for our company: and with that they departed leaving him there.

Ornatus heart began presently to misdoubt, that they were the very same that had taken Artesia from Allinus; which made him presently study how to haue them apprehended: and remembering that he had heard many complain that their cattel were often stolen, he supposed them verily to be the Theebes: that with all the hast he could, he ran to the next village, and raised the townsmen, telling them what he had seen: who presently issued out, and with such weapens as came next to hand followed the Pyrates, and soon found them: setting upon them, took two of them, and the rest, some sore wounded and hurt fled to their ship, and with all the hast they could, got to their harbour.

Ornatus and Artesia.

Early the next morning, the inhabitants conveyed the pirates to the Court, who being come before the King, confessed the manner of their life, and where they lived. Then Lenon presently supposed, that they were the very same that had taken Artesia from Allinus; and demanding the same of them, they told him, that there was such a damsel in their care, and that she told them her name was Artesia.

Then Lenon without delay, strongly accompanied, rode to the next Haven, and there got shipping, by the Pirates directions, to find out their Fort. Ornatus likewise, after he had rayed the people, secretly followed the Pirates unto the place where their ship lay, and amongst the rest, entered the same: who by reason of their hast and exceeding fear, regarded him not, who thrust himself into that danger, onely to see if Artesia were in their custody, not reckoning how his life might be endangered thereby: but the Pirates by Luprates directions, hastned to the Fort, and from thence took Artesia into their ship, not daring to stay there, for that they knew some of their fellows were taken, who might by compulsion be constrained to reveal the place of their abode.

Ornatus no sooner espied Artesia, but he knew her, and his heart leapt within him for joy to see that happy sight: but he durst not speak to her, nor scarce settle his eyes to behold her, for fear of suspect, for that Luprates marvelling how he came amongst them, demanded what he was, and what he made there? I am (quoth hee) a poor Pilgrim, that against my will was by some of this company constrained to come aboard.

Luprates believing he said true, made no further question, but with hast sailed from Phrygia, conveying Artesia into his Cabbin, using many speeches to comfort her.

They had not sailed many hours, but a contrary Wind began to arise, and the Heavens were darkened with thick Clouds and such a mighty Tempest arose that the Ship was by violence driven back, their main Mast broken and thrown over-board, and all in danger of destruction had not the land been near: for the Ship driven by violence of the sea ran a-

The most pleasant History of

ground, and there split in sunder, and the Wyatts with great hazard escaped drowning: none of the, nor Luprates once regarding Artelia: but Ornatus seeing in what perill she was, caught hold on her, and getting on a Plank, being withall somewhat skilfull to swim, with much ado, gate on to the firm Land, and preserved her from a miserable death by drowning.

He was no sooner past danger, but Luprates would have taken her from him: but Ornatus seeing none but himself there, and all the rest fled for fear, told him, since he had forsaken her in extremity, he was not worthy of her: and therefore should not have her. Villain (quoth Luprates) yield her me with quiet, or else thy life shall not detain her. With that, Ornatus caught hold on a boord, which he cleft in sunder with his foot, and with the same gave Luprates so sudden and deadly a wound, that the brains fell out about the place, and he dyed. By this time the storm was quite overpast: and Ornatus seeing his dear love very weak with fear and distemperature; by the arm led her unto a mossie Bank, where the Suns bright beames had full force to dry her garments dropping with wet.

Artelia seeing how tenderly this stranger regarded her, and with what pain he had preserved her, when she was of all but him forsaken, being willing to shew that she was gratefull said: Sir, the pains you have taken, and friendship you have shewed to me, deserve more thanks and recompence, then I am able to give: and therefore I desire you to think that if I were able, I would requite the same: but my misfortunes are so exceeding, that they withhold me from doing that I would: onely thanks is the final requital I can yeeld in token of a gratefull mind being by your meanes at more quiet, than many dayes I have been, though more disquieted than you would judge: but now I rely upō your vertues, with hope thereby to be preserved and not driven to further misery.

Fair Lady (quoth Ornatus) my life shall be spent in your defence: neither will I part from you, until I have brought you to the place which you desire: requesting you to make no

doubt

Ornatus and Artesia.

doubt of my loyalty. I suppose your name is Artesia, because (quoth he) in my travels I have met a Gentleman of this Country named Ornatus, of whom I learned the truth of many of your misfortunes: who I assure you is in good health. O blessed] news (quoth she) then will I hope once again to see my dear Ornatus, whose absence hath been my onely cause of wo.

She had scarce ended these words, but Ornatus espied a ship even then come a shore where theirs was cast away, & most of the men landed; which was the Ship wherein Lenon was: who beheld the other Ship cast away, and the storm being ceased arrived there. From whence Ornatus knew not how to hide himself, and Artesia not so much as thinking Lenon had been in it, but that it was the ship that likewise by the storm was driven to land there. Presently the men began to spread themselves every way, and some of them soon espied Artesia, giving Lenon knowledge thereof, who immediately came towards her, most kindly saluting her: but she being exceedingly dismayed with his sight, whom she most mortally hated, for very grief burst into teares that in abundance gush from her eyes,

Lenon marvelling thereat (and little thinking how much she hated him, and how unwelcome he was) rather expecting thanks for his pains, then reproof, said: My dear Artesia, be not now discomfited, since there is no further cause of care; I have most diligently laboured to release you from grief ever since Allinus by treason conveyed you from my custody, taking your absence in great heavinesse for that it pinched my heart to think you should fall into such distresse: but now that all those misfortunes are past I beseech you go with me to the Court, where I will labour to procure your content. Artesiaes heart was vexed to hear his speeches that she made him this answer.

Most discourteous Lenon, none but your self is cause of my woe, whose sight more tormenteth me then all the afflictions I ever indured. Allinus carried me indeed from the gown for tresse: not by treason, but to shelter me from dishonour, which

The most pleasant History of

you did intend, else would you not have suffered me to endure such misery as I did by my hellish keeper. Think you I have cause either to think you intend my good, or take any comfort by your presence, when you onely disquiet me not suffering me to enjoy my liberty, but would perforce constrain me to that I cannot like. Had you left me in Adellenaes house, then had I not fallen into such misery, as I have since endured: nor Allinus for his vertue, have been brought to poverty; who being before my professed enemy, seeing my miserie, it so mollified his heart that he hath pittied me, and sought my libertie, and onely by crueltie, not by justice, have you sought his overthrow. When I beseech you leave me here; for I had rather endure the hazard of my misfortune, then live to be tormented with your importunacie.

Lenon was so amazed to hear her unkind replie, little thinking he had been so much out of her favour, that he could not tell what to say: sometimes thinking to leave her there and utterlie to forsake her; but that thought was soon overcome by his affection, or violent sting of desire to enjoy her, & once again he said. Why Artesia do you regard my good will no more, than for my pains to yeeld me rebukes, and for my love, disdain? What I caused & to be brought from Adellenaes house, was for that being there, you were subject to many misfortunes. And if I imprisoned Allinus, it was for that I supposed him your enemy, and feared he would have done & wrong: so that whatsoeuer I did with intent of good, you repay me with dislike, and convert all my doings to the worst meaning, wherein you shew your self too cruel that will not yeeld me & least favoꝝ for my constant love. O Artesia be not so hard hearted. Artesia, notwithstanding many fair promises, vowes and protestations he made, would not yeeld to goe with him, but desired rather that he would leave her there. Lenon told her, though not for his sake, yet for her safety, it were best for her to goe: which said, he commanded his servants to place her in a litter. Which when she saw she must needs do, she called to Ornatius, saying: Good Palmer goe along with mee, that for the kindnesse you have shewne
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in preserving my life, I may yield you some recompence. And (quoth she to Lenon) I request nothing of you for my self, but for this strange Pilgrim who (when by the storm & ship was cast away, & I ready to perish) caught me out of the water, & preserved my life: and do not for his good will to me use him as you did my dear Silvia, whom I banished, for that she preserved my life from my unkind uncle: with that she wept exceedingly. When Lenon asked Ornatus what he was? I am (quoth he) as you see a Pilgrim, that was forced to come aboard the Pirates ship, and (amongst the rest) was ready to perish, but that by the divine providence, I was ordained to preserve that vertuous damzels life. For that deed (quoth Lenon) I will reward you most kindly: therefore go along with us. When they all departed to the Court.

Lenon presently caused Artesia to be lodged in a most sumptuous place in the Court, appointing divers damzels to attend her, thinking by those means to win her to consent to love him: but all proved vain, his care was cast away, his cost to little effect and his kindnesse unregarded. For Artesia was so constant to Ornatus, that she hated Lenon: for her heart was wholly employed to with his good, and Lenons ill: for she determined never to love him, though she was assured of Ornatus death. Thus she spent her time in continuall care & sadness, shewing no sign of joy, no sign of comfort, but even as one that regarded no rest, nor look felicity in any thing: that Lenon both admired the same, and laboured by many means to alter that humour: but the more he sought to please her, the more she was displeased, and more discontented at his kindnesse than any thing else. In this sort she continued many dayes, without the least shew of alteration.

Ornatus all this while remaining in the Court, making the cause of his stay to receive Lenons promised reward, whereas indeed he stayed to see what would become of Artesia, or by what means to get her from thence. To effect which, he saw no possible means nor could in many dayes come to see Artesia, which filled his heart with grief: onely comforting himself, with remembering her constant loyalty. And one day be-

The most pleasant History of

ing by himself alone, he entred into these cogitations. Ornatus, thou hast remained many dayes in this place, kept from thy lobe, and sought no means to set thy heart at rest, or her at liberty. Dost thou make no more account of her love than to attempt nothing to attain the same? Or are thy spirits of no more courage, that they will do nothing: thy wit so shallow, thou canst devise no stratagem: or thy mind so cowardly, thou darest not revenge the wrong Lenon doth thee? What though he be the Prince and heir of this Land: is not both he & his father hated ruling by usurpation and cruelty, not with justice, hath sought the downfall of thy house? Can Arctia think either valour or vertue to rest in thee, when she shall know how near thou art to her foe, but darest not touch him: will she not esteem thee a coward, and unworthy to enjoy her love? nay, when she knoweth this will she not alter her love? Why shouldst thou not seek thine own content, though it be with his discontent? Thou art every way as good as he by birth though he now rule the Land. Hath nat thy father said, That his father was but a Captaine in the late Kings dayes, & by treason put his lawfull King to death, and so won the rule? When Ornatus revive thy spirits, seem not to be dismayed wth any danger, fear not misfortune, seek to releate thy love, & venture thy life therein: for living thus, thou shalt be deprived of her love: Lenon will by force or fair meones overcome her: & then mayest thou blame this delay. The King is now sick, and he being dead, Lenon must raigu. Who then may do what he list: When take the advantage of the time, & do not frustrate thy blessed hope with foolish delay.

Having ended this meditation he then began to study how to perform his will, wherein he found many contrarities: but presently he beheld Lenon entring the Court, before who he stood so opposite & he could not chuse but note him, & withall, remembred how earnestly Arctia had entreated him on & Pilgrims behalf, who he thought she esteemed: When suddely this cogitatio arose in his fancy, to use him as an instrument to win her love: & calling Ornatus unto him, he said: Pilgrim, I pray thee blame me not for forgetting to perform

my promise made to Artesia, as concerning this, which I have not neglected for want of good wil, but by reason of thousands of cares that daily torment me, onely procured by her unkindness: but if thou wilt undertake one my behalf, to perswade her to yeld to my just request, for that I think thou maist prevail with her above any: I will not onely reward thy former kindness so shott to her, but also for thy paines herein promote thee to high dignity: therefore I pray thee give consent to follow my counsell herein. Ornatu was willing to be employed in that business, which set out according to his hearts desire, & therefore made him this answer: My noble Lord for that I perceive your intent is good, I will be ready to follow your directions, & do y any service I can: wherein I know notwithstanding I shall prove fortunate, or no, but assure you that I will deal both faithfully & effectually, in y which I shal undertake. Lenon was as glad as he, that he yielded to do that which he thought least to perform, & therefore presently gave command, y the Pilgrim onely should have her in custody. Artesia marvelled that her keepers were charged misdoubting some intent of hard usage: but seeing it was the Pilgrim y now had her in custody, her heart was comforted.

CHAP. XIII.

How Ornatu had the custody of Artesia: how hee discovered himself unto her. How Allinu and Thrasu arrived in Armenia, and got the King to send Embassadors into Phrygia.



Ornatu at his first coming found her sitting in the darkest corner of the Chamber, bewailing her misfortune, with salt teares bewetting her purple cheeks: her ornaments disorderly put on, and her golden tresses hanging carelesly downe, which added beauty to her sweet beauty, and wound more into his heart: leaving her unmoved in a Chair, and hee took into the back of her hand.

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The most pleasant History of

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How Ornatus had the custody of Artesia: how hee discovered himself unto her. How Allinus and Thraxus arrived in Armenia, and got the King to send Embassadors into Phrygia.



Ornatus at his first coming found her sitting in the darkest corner of the Chamber, bewailing her misfortune, with salt teares besmearing her purple cheeks: her ornaments disorderly put on, and her golden Tresses hanging carelesly downe, which added beauty to her sweet beauty, and though shee wept most bitterly: leaning her arm upon a Chair, and her Thighs laid upon the back of her hand.

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The most pleasant History of

When he beheld her sitting in this discomfortable sort, his heart was ready to melt with remorse, and he breathed forth to bitter a sigh that she heard the same: which he perceiving, came towards her, with humble behaviour saying.

Most vertuous Lady, pardon my presumption, in presuming thus unmannely to interrupt your quiet: Lenon the Prince hath appointed me to be your attendant: therefore I beseech you (notwithstanding I am his substitute) command me in any dutiful sort, & I will most willingly imploy my uttermost endeavour, to purchase your content. Artelia raising her self from the ground, said: Pilgrim, I thank you for your kind proffer, and am glad y^e are my keeper for two causes: one for that I trust your vertues wil not suffer me to be insured: the other, for that I would hear out your discourse of my deare friend Oracius, which I was hindered from by Lenons sudden finding me. Lady (qd. he) you shall be assured of the one, and hear more of the other, if first you will vouchsafe without offence to hear my speech, and suffer me to execute the charge Lenon hath given me, and I have undertaken. Why what is that (qd. Artelia) I will not be offended: Lenon hath made known to me his love, and how long, & with what constancy it is grounded commanding & intreating me in his behalf to become an humble suiter unto y^e: he telleth me, that still you ingently disdain him, without cause, reason, or consideration; therefore I humbly desire, both for y^e he is constant, a Prince, and of good & vertuous gifts, yeeld to his love, or else satisfie me of the chiefest reasons that withhold you from the same.

Pilgrim (quoth she) for that my mind perswadeth me, you in wisdom will conceive of reason, and will be faithfull to conceale that which I shall disclose. I answer you thus: First admit Lenon to love me (yet by his rage I and the contrary) I cannot fancy him for that I already have plighted my faith to another, more worthy than himselfe, which is that most vertuous and kind Gentleman Oracius: who like- wise equally loveth me in affection: and therefore I should be- lieve my faith, weaken my faith, and cease perpetually to love it. I should shew me self to inconstant. These I thinke are reasons

Ornatuſ and Artelia.

reaſons (to a reaſonable creature) ſufficient, & of ſuch force, as none can contradict: and therefore no more can be ſaid therein. Beſides, were not all this ſo, you have no reaſon to perſwade me to that which I have ſo often denied, and will never yeeld unto. Your reaſons indeed (quoth he) are great, and the cauſe ſuch as ſhould no way be violated: but now you are ſubject to his mercie, and he may enforce you to that which you are moſt unwilling to have done: then what remedie have you, but rather to yeeld, thā endure ſuch extremitie as he may uſe? Yes (quoth ſhe) when I can preferve my ſelf no longer from his luſt, death ſhal rid me from his power, which I will execute upon my ſelf, rather than condeſcend to yeeld him ſo much as an outward ſhew of favour. Therefore I pray you uſe no more words tending to the breach of my faith, and furtherance of his love: ſo I knew you but how hatefull his name were unto me, and how odious to thinke of his doſing love, you would not onely deſiſt to torment me with the ſound of that ominous monſter, but rather to ſeek to comfort my diſtreſſed eſtate, and my pining heart, almoſt drowned with ſorrow, being more unfortunate than ever any was, by theſe afflictions, and the love of my deare Ornatuſ, whoſe preſence ſhould releaſe me from this thraldome, and labyrinth of diſcontent: Of whom if you can tell me any tidings, I beſeech you impart them unto me, thereby to ad comfort to mitigate my care.

Ornatuſ was ſo raviſhed to hear her utter ſuch heaivenlie ſpeeches, that he had much ado to reſtraine from embracing her, uttering theſe ſpeeches: How happie is Ornatuſ by attaining the love of ſo vertuous and conſtant a Lady, worthe to be admired, eternized, and ever to be honored: what comfort may theſe pleaſing words bring to his heart? what torment can he not account pleaſure, endured ſo ſweet a Ladies ſafety: and what pains ſhould he reſuſe, to procure her ſweet content? O Artelia! divine Artelia! Ornatuſ is not able to expreſſe his content nor your deſert; unable to recompence your kindneſſe and everlaſtinglie bound to you in all firm bands of faithfull loyalty. In your heart is the harbor

The most pleasant History of

of true loyalty, grounded upon vertuous love: then how happy is he, by being enriched and possessed with such a love: his reward is greater then his pain: his pleasure more then ever his sorrow could be. his gains a thousand times beyond his losse. Why should I then conceal the truth of his safety from you? With that, he said; Behold Artesia your Ornatus, with that he discovered himself unto her, and she perfectly knew him, being almost amazed with that heavenly sight; when with a sweet behaviour, they both embraced each other, intermingling their kisses with teares of joy that in abundance distilled from their eyes: surfeiting so much in that sweet delight that they were loth to part, but that fear to be espied, compelled them; taking such exceeding comfort in each others presence, as is not to be exprest: withall, using many kindneses, usuall betwixt faithfull friends, to expresse their joy: he sometimes embracing her, and she againe with a sweet kisse welcomming him: being so many, so kind, & hearty, as would ask a skilful discription. At last, having somewhat recreated themselves, and with sudden joy banished some part of their care, they thought it time to study how to procure their happines, lest the same might again be crost by Lenon, who by that time expected to hear from him. Wherefore Ornatus said: My most dear and kind wife Artesia, by whose love my life is preserved, I am not able to expresse the joy my heart conceiveth by this fortunate meeting, being likewise as sorry to think of the misfortune I have indured by my carelesse oversight, and how to get you from this place; and from Lenons affection, whom I know to be of such uncivil disposition, that he will leave no disloyall means unattempted to further his intent.

Wherefore in this urgent extremity if you will be contented to esteem me as your friend, and follow my directions, I will labor all that I can to get you from this place. My true friend Ornatus (said Artesia) I have dedicated my self to your disposition and make my self all one with you both in heart, body, and mind that whatsoever you would wish your self, you do to me, and whatsoever pleaseth you, cannot displease me, for I am

am your self: therefore I commit all things to your wisdom and rest to be ruled, counselled, and ordered by you in whatsoever you shall think convenient, and will do any thing you shall counsel me unto, both for our escape from hence, or otherwise: accounting my blisse yours, and yours mine, your care mine and your quiet my content.

Lenons love is most hatefull to me, and injury to you: then what means can you work to rid me of that, and revenge your own wrong: perform, for my consent is ready to yeeld to any thing you shall think convenient.

I most humbly thank you said Ornatus, & first I think this is the best course, to procure my good liking with him and to rid us from hence, that at his next coming you shew a little more friendly countenance unto him, than heretofore you have done as that best agree wth your wisdom, & he perceiving that my service hath done more for him than ever he could attain will not only credit me, but be ruled by me in any thing I shall counsel him unto: which if you will perform commit the rest to me. My dear Ornatus at your request I will do this which otherwise I would never of my self yeeld unto: for that my love to you, and hate to him would not suffer me so much to dissemble: but I pray God deliver me well from forth his power, that I may in quiet enjoy your sweet company. These speeches being ended, they parted wth a sweet kisse, he sighing & she for grief shedding tears. Not long after, Lenon came to Ornatus requesting to know whether he had prevailed any thing with Artesia in his behalf. My Lord quod he, I have used many persuasions to her, which in some sort have prevailed, but hereafter I do not doubt but by my persuasions to win her full consent if you with wisdom will be directed by me and not with rashnesse marre all: therefore go in unto her, but not too rashly, and see if she be not altered. Lenon embraced him in his arms, saying: Thou bringest me tidings of exceeding comfort, for which I will reward thee most bountifully. With that, he gave him a purse of Gold: which Ornatus took, thinking that should be a meane to further him and hinder the giver. Lenon entered Artesiaes Chamber,

The most pleasant History of

vsing many kind speeches, and submitte behaviours, whom she used more kindlie then ever she had before done: which both filled his heart with joy, and made him according to y^e Pilgrims directions more carefull of his behavioz, lest by any boldnesse he might offend her: that having past some smal time with her, he departed.

Now was Ornatus studying how to release Artesia: to further whose intent, the occasion thus fell out: Allinus and Thralus, as is before said, gate shipping for Armenia, and arrived there with safety: first directing their course to the Kings Pallace, where Allinus was most honourably entertained, being somewhat allied to the King, to whom he declared both the cause of his exile, and the injury done to him by Thæon, King of Phrygia. Turbulus the Armenian King, comforted him all that he could, and bad him withall request any thing at his hands & he would grant it him. Allinus alledging many things to perswade Turbulus to yeld thereto, requested him to send Embassadors into Phrygia, either to request performance of certain Articles, or else to give him open defiance for war. The Articles were these. That Allinus should be restozed to his lands, and the damage and losse hee had sustained should be repayed to the full: that his wife should be recalled from banishment, and that he should yeld up Artesia to Allinus, if she would be in his custody, & that the King and Lenon should be sworn to perform all this. Turbulus was easilie won, and therefore presently sent four of his noblemen as Embassadors, to request the performance of certain conditions: Who when they were landed in Phrygia, and newes thereof was brought to the Court, the King being himselfe somewhat sickly, sent Lenon to meet them, and give them entertainment: who was loth to go from Artesiaes sight: but assuring himself of y^e pilgrims faith, committed her wholly to his custody. Ornatus thought it now y^e fittest time to seek to escape but he was hindered by other of Lenons servants, whom he had secretly appointed, as overseers to look into the pilgrims action: that it was impossible for him to attempt any thing that way, but it must needs be discovered and prevented.

Ornatus

Ornatus and Artesia.

Ornatus seeing himself disappointed of his purpose, that way, made Artesia acquainted with what he intended, & how he was prevented, spending the time in Lenons absence continually in her company.

Lenon having met the Armenian Embassadors, brought them to the Court where they were honourably entertained: and having declared their Embassage, Tharon the King told them they should receive answer within two dayes. Lenon hearing the Articles, counselled his father not to yield to perform any such conditions, but rather to send Turbulus defiance. For (qd. he) your Majesty is as absolutely a King of Phrygia, as he of Armenia: and then what dishonour were it to you to stoop to his command, and shew your self as it were afraid of his threats? for to bind your self to this were to become his subject: which would soon be published through the whole world to your dishonour. The King being over-ruled by his persuasions gave the Embassadors this answer, That he meant not to perform the least of those Articles they demanded, nor feared the Kings threats of war, for that he was able to deal with a mightier foe then he: using many other words, and some of reproach, that the Armenians denouncing open war, according as they were commanded, departed.

CHAP. XIII.

How Ornatus staying too late in Artesiaes chamber was accused by Lenons servants whom he slew. How Allinus with a band of Armenians landed in Phrygia: and how Ornatus was imprisoned.

THaron knew, that the King of Armenia would perform his word and therefore gave Lenon charge to muster up men throughout the whole land: committing the chief charge of the Army, and ordering of these affairs, unto him: who more hardy bold then wise, undertook all; & in short space had gathered an exceeding great army, and furnished certain ships, to meet with the Armenians by sea: if it might be possible, to vanquish them before they should land.

The most pleasant History of

These troubles filled the Commoners hearts with grief, & their mouths with murmurings: for they understanding, that the King of Armenia did offer war to Phrugia, in the behalf of Allinus, that was generally beloved: there was few of those that were prest to those wars, but came unwillingly or rather by constraint, being more ready to turn their sword points against Theon, than against Allinus.

Ornatus likewise hearing of these wars, by his wisdoms found out the opinion of the multitude and with what unwillingnesse they came to the Wars: which when he was in some sort assured of he came to the Camp, and amongst all the rest of his familiars, espied Phylastes, who alwayes loved him most dearly, him he knew to be of a most faithfull and constant resolution, in performing his promise and was by Lenon appointed one of the chiefest leaders. Ornatus finding him remote from the Camp, came to him, & after salutation, said: Sir Phylastes, I am set unto you by a dear friend of yours, named Ornatus, who trusteth so much in your vertues, that he is willing to put his life into your hands, which you shal hazard in denying him one smal favor, which with safety you may grant: first therefore I request but your promise for your warrant, & then I will declare what I have in charge.

My friend quoth Phylastes) thou tellest me news of wonder, when thou sayest thou comest from Ornatus, whom I fear is long since dead, but if thou knowest the contrary and canst resolve me thereof: I promise and swear to performe whatsoever thou shalt demand: for I am sure Ornatus knoweth that I love him nor maketh any doubt thereof: which if he do, he injureth that love and friendship which hath past between us.

Then kind sir (quoth he) that Ornatus is not dead, but in safety, and I am that Ornatus that notwithstanding my speech, make no doubt of your love.

Phylastes beholding his countenance knew him well, and for joy caught him in his arms: My dear friend Ornatus (quoth he) I am glad of your safety, and accursed be my soul, if I do not any thing you shall command.

Ornatus and Artesia.

I thank you (quoth Ornatus.) To enter into the tedious discourse of our afflictions, would be tedious; but in few words I will tell you all. I loved Artesia long, but found no hope nor meanes to attain my love: which made me disguise my self into Romans apparell, naming my self Sylvia, and was fortunately entertained by Arbastus; whose death I found to be acted by Floretus: who falling into love with me, told me, for my sake he would poison Artesia at the lodge; whither he conveyed her. I fearing to have her taken from me, and having won her love, told her his intent, and conveyed her to Adellenaes house: then Floretus and Lenon came thither, demanding her of me: whom I told, I had poisoned her, according to his counsell: we striving, were brought before Thæen who banished me into Patolia: from whence I came back, and by good fortune have the keeping of Artesia in this disguise: the manner I will tell you at more leisure. Now my dear friend Phylastes, my desire is, to change my place with you; you to have the custody of Artesia in my Palmers weeds, and I to march in the field in your armor; which if I grant, you shall bind me unto you for ever.

Phylastes yeelded to fulfill his request: and so for that time they parted appointing to meet the next day.

Ornatus being come to Artesia told her where he had been, and what he intended. which made Artesia sad, dissuading him from his purpose in this sort: My dear Love, what need you venture your person in the dangers that are incident to War: will you leave me here in doubt, and not rather stay with me to my comfort: There are enough besides, & too many in the field, and Phylastes is able to execute his owne place. Then I beseech you do not leave me in discomfort: for how can I be void of care when I shall think you are amongst so many enemies ready to be slaughtered? My dear Love, (quoth he, that which I will do, shall be without any hazard at all, but shall procure both yours and mine own content: Then I beseech you remit this care for my safety: for I will preserve my self from danger, for your sake. Besides, Phylastes vertue is such, as you need not once so much as thinke
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The most pleasant History of

amisse of him, who I know would vnder his life for my sake. Besides my honoz, urgeth me, revenge of my injuries doe to your self and me, and my fathers safetie, are reasons sufficient to perswade your consent: besides, many other causes, moze forgettable then these, too tedious to recite. When I beseech you be mie me not: for when it shall be known that my father was in armes in the field, and I in this place not regarding to aid him, it wil turn to my great dishonour, and those that before did esteem well of me, will then begin to hate me: then let not your doubt & true love to me hinder my determination, for on mine honoz, your safetie, & my fathers life dependeth.

Artesia seeing she could by no means dissuade him, thought not to let him depart so suddenlie; but clasping her tender arms about his neck, a thousand times kiss his lips, whilest with abundance of tears she bedewed his manly cheeks. Ornatus took great sorrow at her heavinesse, and delight in her imbracings, that the contrarieties of his conceits, were exceeding; pleasure it self being moze pleasant intermingled with care, and care a pleasure, to be indued with such delight Artesia was loth to let Ornatus depart that night, for that she deemed he should be in danger the next day, and he as unwilling to leave her in sorrow: she on the one side solacing her self in his company, he by her kindnesse making him forget to depart, that before they were awaie, Night was come, and well spent: and Ornatus then bethinking himselfe, thought it was too late depart. And Artesia hearing him make a motion to be gone desired him to stay: And yet my dear Ornatus (quoth she) do not indanger your self for my sake; for should Lenons servants find you here, it might redound to our great disquiet. Ornatus likewise well considering the inconvenience, took his leave of her, and left her shedding abundance of teares. Ornatus being gone, found the servants awake, and watching his comming out, one of them sayn: Pilgrim, what maketh thee so sauey, as to court my Masters Love? Is this a fit time of the Night to be in her Chamber? My Lord shall understad your behaviour, and what familiarity is betwixt you: We take
you

you to be ſome counterſeit, elſe would not ſuch behavours paſſe betwixt you as wee have beheld; therefore here ſhall you ſtay, untill we give him knowledge of your doings and fidelitie: with that they lockt ſalt the dooꝛ, not ſuffering him to go out or in. Ornatuſ by that perceiv'd that they had ſeen the kindneſſe betwixt him and Artelia, which he know if Lenon ſhould underſtand, he would find out what he was: theſe thoughts troubled his heart exceedingly, that he was aſſured, unleſſe he could be rid of them there was no means to eſcape death, if Lenon ſhould know him. With theſe ſtudies he ſate a good while ſilent, til he perceiv'd them incline to ſleep, and caſting his eye aſide, eſpied a Bill hanging by the wall, to which he ſtole ſecretly. and taking hold of the ſame, he drew towards them, entering into theſe meditations. And ſhall I now commit murder and endanger my ſoul by ſo hainous a ſinne: what will Artelia ſay, if ſhe know thou art ſo bloudie bent, and that thy heart is ſo hard, as to ſhed thine owne Countreymens bloud? Ornatuſ he well adviſed before thou doe this deed, and bethink of ſome other means to avoid the danger thou art readie to fall into. Other means Ornatuſ ſayd, but what other means haſt thou none at all. Doſt thou not ſee how they have betrayed thee, & made thee priſoner? what then ſhaſt thou make a queſtion to ſave thy ſelf, and by their deaths preſerve thine owne life, which they living will be endangered, and being once done thou art ſafe: but by delay, thine owne life may periſh. With that liſting up his arms with more than wonted force, he ſmote the one on the head and beat out his brains; wherewith the other began to awake: but in his awaking he ſtrook him ſo full on the breaſt, that the Bill pierſt his heart, & he lay breathleſſe ſprawling in his goze. This done Ornatuſ found a Vault, & into the ſame he conveyed their dead bodies, purpoſing never to reveal what he had done. Then returning, he bethought himſelf of the keyes of the dooꝛs that he had throwen into the Vault with their bodies, deviſing how to get out without ſuſpition of the deed he had done; that he was enforced to take the Bill, and by main force, & often ſtriving, wyning aſunder the Locks. His mind being exceedingly af-

The most pleasant History of

frighted with these cares, he entred into Artchaes chamber to
 see whether he had disquieted her with the noise or no: her he
 found in bed, and fast asleep, with the light still burning by her
 bed-side, her breast uncovered down to her waste, & nothing
 to shroud her from his perfect view, but the single sheet, that
 lay careleslie cast over her tender body; her armes cast to ei-
 ther side of the bed, and her head leaning on the one side with
 so sweet an aspect, as would have ravished a thousand behol-
 ders. Ornatus heart was so revived to behold this sweet sight, &
 the remembrance thereof had banished all remembrance of his
 troubles past, and affected his heart with incomparable de-
 light that he stood like one amazed, to behold her sweet beau-
 ties, and to take a surfeiting view of those her perfections, so
 amitably laid forth. Artcha suddenly awaking, blusht to see him
 so nigh, yet therewith more comforted than dismayed, she caught
 the cloaths, & covered her self, whilst he folding his hand in
 hers, desired pardon for his boldnesse: but she viewing him
 wel, beheld his pale and ghastly countenance, which brake her
 into fear, and raising her self upright in her bed, caught him in
 her arms, asking what ailed him to look so pale: Oe dear
 Artcha, qu. he, since I parted from you, I have endured great
 danger, & past through a hel of calamities, which now I fear
 not: with y he let his head fall into her sweet bosome & there
 made the period of his speech; feeling her tender heart pant
 with the motions of her troubled spirits: In which place he
 rested it a good while, whilst she with her soft hand curled his
 hair, & with sweet kisses mollified his lips, using many other
 familiarities & sweet favours, proceeding from the depth of kind
 love: wherewith Ornatus was so ravished, that he not only took
 heavenly comfort therein, but also desired a further content, &
 possession of her love, which he never before asked nor thought
 he would grāt: but being heartned by y assurance of her love,
 he used more bold behaviour, which she permitted. But at last
 growing more bold than she thought convenient for her mo-
 destie to permit, to a kind & and lovely behavior, she both bla-
 med & hindred him: but y motions of affection so far prevailed
 with them both, that he desired & she inwardly yielded, though
 out:

Ornatus and Artelia.

outwardly she refused; but his behaviour, her own love, & present occasion, so fit opportunity, their hearts unity, and other sweet inticements, so far prevailed, that she yielded up her unspotted body & pure chastity to his possession; and the impression of his attempt dissolved her Virgin vow, giving full interest of her heart, love, and body, to him that pursued & possession of those riches wth earnestnesse. Sometimes blushing, sometimes shynking, and yet yielding; denying, and yet granting; willing, and unwilling: yet at last she gave & she could not recall, and let him possesse her spotlesse virginity. Which being past her heart panted with & motioⁿ, & she felt her selfes sad; a little repenting, yet not altogether sorry, sighing for sadnesse, and yet not sad at all: whilest he bathed himself in that Haven of blisse, passing & rest of that night in such unspeakable pleasure as cannot be deciphered. Early the next morning he arose taking his farewell with a sweet adieu, leaving Artelia sad for sorrow, and lamenting his absence, but yet wth earnest and hearty prayers invocating his happy successe: bathing her heart in luke-warm tears, thinking she had been too prodigal of her favours to him, & yet esteeming him worthy of a thousand times greater gift, if she had it in her possession: with repentance rejoycing, though deeming her self metamorphosed, & ether the she was wth to be: being glad she had no more company to converse withall, least her guilt should make her blush, & so bewray her fault. And when Phobus began to lighten the Chamber with his splendor, she hid her self within the bed, as if the day light had accused her of & she had done in the dark. Ornatus being come to the Camp, found out Phylastes, and brought him to Arteliaes lodging; by & way instructing him how to order their busines when Lenon should come. There being entred, Phylastes having saluted Artelia, & a while conversed about their affaires they changed their habits: Ornatus with many a sorrowful sigh taking his leave of her while his heart bled warm drops of blood. Ornatus again took his leave of Artelia, & entred the camp, framing himself of such kind of behaviour, that he was of all taken for Phylastes. News came, that the Armenians were landed and had brought

The most pleasant History of

brought their forces within a dayes march of Thæons Camp, the King assembled all the chief leaders together, to appoint every man his charge and consult what to do. Ornatus in Phylasies stead, had under his charge four thousand men, whom by his own seeking he was appointed to convey into a wood, that stood fitly to offend the enemy, and the rest appointed to other places, that seemed for most advantage.

Ornatus having his souldiers alone, thought it time to execute what he intended, and therefore called to him such as were Captains and chief under him, uttering these speeches: Fellow souldiers I would willingly utter my mind, which is troubled in some sort with the remembrance of the injuries Allius hath causelessly endured, against whom now we advise our selves to fight; wherein, in my mind we deal unjustly: for he was never Traitor to his Country, nor now cometh to disturb the land with oppression, but only to claim his own inheritance and liberty, which our selves do permit: therefore I think it best before we draw our weapons, to consider against whom we draw them, and whom we offend: one that loveth us, his Country, and people, and would not willingly shed a drop of our blood.

Now, if I could find a remedy for all this, which standeth in equity, would I follow my directions: With that, they all at once said, they would be ruled by him. Then he said; Thæon is now our King, destroyed all his family, & such as are of any degree near unto him in blood & last of who is Allius, whose after ruine he now seeketh, not by justice, but that neither he nor any of his Progeny should hinder his succession: therefore if you will follow my counsel, when the armies are met, let us not offer to offend the Armenians, but keep our selves from fight until Lenon affrighted therewith, & fearing the peoples revolt, will peradventure yeeld to perform the Articles the Armentan Embassadors demanded: & by this means shall we restore Allius to his right, save the effusion of blood, and yet not wrong our reputation. The people hearing his speech generally gave their consent: crying, Phylastes, Phylastes. With that, Ornatus bestowed the Gold among them that Lenon had.

Ornatus and Artesia.

had before given him, which prebailed with the multitude exceedingly. Ornatus having effected this according to his desire went unto the Armenian Camp, desiring to speak with Allinus the Generall, to whom he declared what he intended in his behalf not discovering himself to be any other the Phylastes: for which Allinus yielded him many hearty thanks. Whilst Ornatus was absent, a Captain named Ortonus drawn by desire of reward, and above the rest favouring Lenons party, stole from the wood, and coming into the camp to Lenon, bewrayed what Phylastes intended, and told that he was gone to the Armenian Camp, to confer with Allinus. Lenon hearing that, thought it not best to send for him by warrant, but among the rest to assemble him to counsell, and to that effect sent a Herald. Ornatus being returned had knowledge of the Generall assembly and willingly went, little suspecting what Lenon intended: and being entered the Camp and Lenons tent, he was before all the Estates arrested by a Herald of high Treason. Ornatus then thought his intent was bewrayed, demanding what they could lay to his charge. Whereupon Ortonus before them all, declared what he had done, which he could not deny: upon which accusation, he was presently sent to the Court and there imprisoned.

CHAP. XV.

How Ornatus was delivered out of prison, and carried Artesia from the Court. How Ornatus in a single Combate overcame Lenon, and caused Thæons flight: And how Artesia to escape Thæon, fled to Adellenæes house.



The newes of Ornatus imprisonment, was was soon blazed through the whole Camp, Court and Country, and at last came to Artesias hearing, who with exceeding lamentations bewailed his misfortune: but Phylastes coming unto her, comforted her all y^e he could: promising to set Ornatus at liberty, if y^e he at Lenons next coming you wil request his Signet, to keep as his warrant for your safety.

The most pleasant History of

The next day the Armes should meet: and therefore Lenon that night visited Artesia; and finding her very sad, demanded the cause thereof: By Lord (quoth she) how can I be otherwise then sad, when I am ready every hour to fall into more misery, not knowing whether your life may be endangered by these Warres, and I thereby subject to some misfortune: therefore in sign you love me, grant me your Signet, to be my warrant and privilege, against all injury that may be offered me: With that she kiss him, which she had never before done not drawn by any good will, but with desire to help Ornatus, Lenons heart was so overcome that he presently gave her the same staying sometime with her to intreat her consent to his love. He was no sooner gone, but Phylastes taking the ring of Artesia, went unto the place where Ornatus was, & coming to the Gaoles told him that he must deliver Phylastes to his custodie: shewing him the Princes Signet as his warrant. The Gaoles seeing the same, & knowing y^e the pilgrim was of great credit and trust with Lenon, made no doubt, but presently delivered Ornatus to him, both departing together to Artesia: who seeing her beloved so fortunately delivered shed tears of joy for his escape.

After salutations in the kindest sort past, Ornatus declared what he intended, and how he was betrayed by Oronus. Phylastes the cousselled Ornatus that night to convey Artesia from thence, unto some place of better security: who sometimes thought to carry her to Adellenaes house: but he thought Lenon would misdoubt that place. At last he concluded to convey her to her Castle where Arbastus her father dwelt, which was still kept to her use by certain of her fathers servants: Both Artesia and Phylastes liked this well: and therefore leaving y^e Court, they departed thitherwards. Artesia not wanted to travel, could scarcely endure to hold out: but by their help, they arrived there at midnight, & knocking awaked the Porter: who looking over the Battlements, demanded who was below at that unreasonable time of the night: my friend (quoth Ornatus) it is Artesia, that cometh in time of her most need, for harbour in this place. The Porter viewing her wel by the bright light

Ornatus and Artelia.

light of Cynthia, knew her, and calling up the rest of his fellows, came running down and opened the gate where he and the rest receiv'd her in with great joy.

Ornatus was glad of this happy escape: but yet exceeding sad that he could not assist his father against Lenon, but that he must perforce be absent from his rescue: which fill'd his heart with such care, that all that night he could take no rest and though he enjoyed Arteliaes company without controull, he could give no rest nor quiet to his distemper'd thoughts: that Phylattes demand'd the cause of his sadness. My assured friend Phylattes (quoth he) the remembrance of my Fathers estate and fear of his mishap, maketh me thus sad; and griefs exceeding torment possesseth me, that I cannot be present to aid him against Lenon, that by cowardly malice not with valour, will seek his ruine before any others: Were I but present to defend him though I offend none, my heart would be at quiet. Artelia hearing his speeches, said: Good Ornatus, do not again hazard your self as you lately did; for had not Fortune and Phylattes wisdom assisted us, both your life and with it mine had been cast away.

My dear Artelia (quoth he) that misfortune hath taught me wisdom, and by remembering it, I will learn to eschew such mischiefs, and know whom I trust: therefore, I beseech you, grant I may once again go, to do my duty in aiding my Father, which I will now do without danger, for that I will make none privie to that I intend, nor attempt more than I am able to perform. Artelia seeing how fully he was bent to go, preferred his will before her own desire; knowing her duty not to contradict, but to counsel him, and therefore said: My dear Ornatus, my duty bindeth me to consent, but my love willethe me to deny: fear of your mishap maketh me unwilling; but will to fulfill your desire, maketh me give an unwilling consent: onely let me request this, that you will take Phylattes in your company, and leave me to the custody of any servants, whose fidelity I am assured of: for having him with you, his aid and counsell may much abail to preserve your life: which if you lose (as heavens forbid) with the same shall mine

The most pleasant History of

mine expire; for it is impossible Artesia should breathe, Ornatuſ being breathleſſe. Ornatus with a few teares, that by exceeding grief were wrung from his heart, participated her lamentations: firſt requeſting the ſervants to be carefull of her good, & the without delay both furniſhing himſelf and Phylaſtes with rich Armoz and Horſe, of which there was great choiſe in y^e Caſtle, and for y^e the day began to appear, they thought it time to depart, leſt their coming from thence might be diſcovered. There might one behold ſorrow at parting in his right forin: heart breaking ſighs breathing ſad farewells, and ſorrowfull teares at ſo ſad a parting: when their lipps were parted their hands ſtill laſt; their hands diſſoind, then their voices often uttering that wooll word, farewell: and when they were paſt hearing, their eyes unwillingly leaving each others ſight, he being without, looking back; and ſhe within looking after; ſo long as ſhe could perceive the glimmering light of the bright Armoz, and he being paſt ſight of her, with watry eyes beholding the place of her abode. Thus parted they, as if they had parted never to meet,

Drawing nigh the Armies they beheld them met, & in hot ſkirmiſh: ſtanding ſtill a good ſpace, to ſee to whether party it was likely the victoꝝy would incline: and in the end, they beheld the Armenians begin to retireit, and Lenon with Thæon his father in the miſt of the throng making exceeding ſlaughter and proud of their deemed conqueſt. Which ſet Ornatus heart on fire: that he ruſht among the thickeſt of his Country-men, yet not once offering a blow, nor ſhedding a drop of the blond he loved, but onely making way to come to Lenon: which made them not offer to ſtay his paſſage: but admiring what he was, let him go free: after whom Phylaſtes haſted. The ſouldiers ſeing theſe two new come knights offend none, admired what they ſhould be, not one of them offering a blow becauſe they offered none. By this time Ornatus was come to the place where Lenon was, who even then, & not before had met Aſinus: betwixt whom many blowes and ſome wounds were given, and receiued but Allius had the worſt, by reaſon of his age. Ornatus knowing his Father by his
Ar.

Ornatus and Artesia.

Armour, came betwixt them with his sword drawn, saying : Lenon stay thy hand, let age go free, and let thy youth cope with me, that am come to challenge thee before both the Armies: & therefore as thou art the Kings son, a Knight, and honourrest Arms, give order by thy Herald to stay the fury of the battle, till thou and I have tryed our valours: otherwise, this Knight and I have vowed to hunt thee from place to place, and never give over until we have spilt thy blood.

Lenon hearing this Champions proud challenge, said: If thou art a Knight, and a Gentleman, as I am, and canst shew wherein I have wronged thee, I will answer thee: otherwise know, that I scorn thee, although I know my self of sufficient strength to abate thy haughty presumption, were it never so great. With that two Herald's were sent from either Generall, to part the Souldiers: which done, Ornatus before the open Assembly said, Lenon, first I say, I am a Gentleman, as absolute and as good as thy self; Since I am none, neither art thou by right, but by tyranny & usurpation thou holdest the same. I came as Artesiaes Champion to challenge thee of disloyalty, as the outrages thou hast committed by detaining her liberty, do manifest: I challenge thee for doing injustice against Allinus, who thou withholdest from his right by treacherous malice: I challenge thee as partaker of Arbastus death, for that thou sufferest & upholdest the murdherer Floretus, that hath deserved death: I challenge thee for oppression laid upon this whole land: And lastly for detayning Ornatus living, who never was impeached of treason: & therefore if thou darest answer my challenge, I am here ready: otherwise, I pronounce thee for a coward & miscreant, not worthy to bear Arms. Lenon made this reply: Being accused by a stranger without cause I regard it not, & being judge, my self will not by thee be adjudged: but for thy proud challenge, I will answer thee, as little regarding what thou canst do, as thou boastingly doest vant of thy valor Therefore even now, before I depart, I will without delay abate thy haughtinesse, though thy accusations are manifestly false: for I both love and esteem Artesia as dearly as I do my self, my title to the Crown is just: for Allinus,

The most plesant History of

he is both a traitor at home and abroad : first, in causing his complices to seek my fathers life : and lastly, for bringing these Armenian bands to destroy this country. For Florentus pardon, it is mercie not iustice. As for oppression done to Orratus, all know I never injured him: but if he take the iustice that is done to his traiterous father, as done to him, I cannot help that; but revenge it thou, since thou art his champion. Ornatus had much ado to stay to hear out his speech, which galled him to the very heart, that without speaking a word more, he smote at Lenon, and Lenon with courage answered his blowes, beginning a most fierce and forcible encounter, and with like furie continued the same, till both had received many wounds, and their steeds began to be furious and mad with the smart of some strokes that mist their right aim.

Ornatus calling to remembrance, first the injuries he had received & that Lenon & none else could dispossesse him of Arrexis as love, & many other wrongs he had done him and his parêts, thought now to revenge them all, and dispossesse Thæon of the Crown, by Lenons death; revived his spirits with such courage, that he begā with renewed strength to assail Lenon, who even then began to faint & would have yielded, but that shame withheld him. Which when Ornatus perceived, he thought at once to end the strife, that with one forcible blow he gave him so deep a wound on the right arm, where the Armour was broken away, that he let fall his sword, and fell sencelesse on his horse neck. Thæon perceiving his Son in that danger, with his Guard came rushing in, & rescued him from Ornatus sword: which otherwise had parted his head from his bodie. With this both the Armies joynd battel again; the Armenians with new courage rushing upon their enemies: whose hearts began to fall, seeing Lenon so near death, which made such a confusion amongst them that they were readie to flie, or yield to Allinus, rather than fight it out, y on a sudden the Armenians had slain an infinite number of them and all the earth was dyed to a purple colour with their blood. Ornatus heart was vexed to see so much of his countries blood shed, that he increa-

Ornatus and Artesia.

intreated Phylastes, to perswade the Souldiers to give over, and himself rode betwixt the two Armies with a Herald, desiring them to stay their fury for a while. Long it was before they would give over, but at last by the Drums and Trumpet sound, having called back the Armenians, Ornatus placing himself in the midst of his Country-men, that a multitude might hear him, said: Renowned people of Phrygia, hear my speech, that am tormented to see so much of our blood shed, the effusion whereof I seek by all means to stop, having as you see for the love I bare you not lifted my hand against any of you, but onely Lenon: the causes that urge me to challenge him, is the manifest wrong he and his father hath done to your selves, this Country, and all the Nobility; for the true testimony whereof, let every one inwardly examine his own conscience, and they will not deny my words, but find themselves exceedingly grieved with his oppression. Do you not see what destruction he hath brought upon this Land? Are not almost all the Nobility slain and destroyed? Are not your liberties, goods, and friends taken from you? Is not the whole Land in an uproar, and every one driven from his quiet at home to venture his life in the field, and all this for satisfaction of his will and self-command, not grounded upon law or justice? Examine your consciences, is he your lawfull King? did he not murder your lawfull King onely to make you his vassals? Again doth Allinus seek to do his Country wrong? doth he come to oppress you? doth he seek to abuse your liberty? No, he onely commeth to claim his possessions, by injustice taken from him: he commeth as urged by grief, not to live as a banished man, being himself, his wife, children, and family, driven to live in misery and slavery, for the satisfaction of his lust. Then I beseech you good Souldiers, consider well what you do, whom you defend, a traitor; and whom you resist, a dear friend, that loveth and tendereth your lives as dear as his own: whose estate the Armenians pittie, to whom hee was never gracious; but his own Country-mens hearts are hardened against him, repaying cruelty for his love, and resistance to withhold his right.

The most pleasant History of

I could alledge so many reasons to dissuade you fro following Thæons will, as would ask a tedious recitall, but I know you are of wisdom to conceive the right, your hearts mercifull to pittie him, and your minds apt to do justice: then give him over, discharge your minds of care and disburthen your selves of his oppression. I stand here, as an Advocate to plead for Allinus right, that hath indured too much wrong: I stand here as Artesiacs Champion, that is imprisoned by Lenon, abused by Lenon, and withheld from her liberty by Lenon: I stand here to intreat you save your own lives, to preserve your liberty to execute justice, & to do Allinus right. When I beseech you lay aside your arms taken in defence of wrong, and turn your hearts to pittie innocency: whereby you shall save many of your lives, shew your selves men that are ruled by wisdom, not be rage, and purchase liberty, freedom, and peace, for ever.

Then you that bear the true hearts of Phrygians, follow me, and forsake to follow that Usurper, and stay such ruine, & destruction as is like to ensue by your refusall: and let the rightfull Heir enjoy the Crown who will love you, cherish you, and seek his Countries peace. The peoples hearts were so altered with his speeches, that many came running to him, crying, Allinus, Allinus: and the rest that were not yet resolved, stood in a doubt what to do. Whilist Duke Ternus commanded his forces to follow him, who withdrew himself from the Camp, and espying so fit occasion determined likewise not to follow Thæon longer, whom he neither hated nor loved but yet esteemed as an unlawfull usurper of that Kingdome, and rather desiring Allinus should possesse his right of inheritance, then any way willingly contradicting the same: being, as many others were, forced to come to those wars, fearing Thæons displeasure: who cared not in what sort his will was performed. Ternus therefore drew himself a part with this policy, that if Thæon prevailed, yet he could not impeach him: and if Allinus had the best, yet he could not alledge that Ternus withheld him, thinking it the greatest point of wisdom, to keep himself upright.

Thæons

Ornatuſ and Arteſia.

Thæon had no ſooner convey'd his ſon to his Tent, and with much ado recover'd him to his ſences, but there came a meſſenger poſſing from the court, with news, that Phylakteſ was two dayes ſince eſcap'd out of priſon: and preſently after him, another brought news that Arteſia, with the Pilgrim, was fled, but no man could tell whither. Lenon hearing the newes, became almoſt mad, and rag'd ſo extremely, that his wounds burſt into freſh bleeding. And to fill up his heart with ſorrow and vexation, another meſſenger from the Cap came running in, crying: *Flie Thæon, flie, we are betrayed to the enemy, the Leaders, Captains, and Souldiers, are revolted, and the enemy is near at hand, to ſurprize thee. Flie, & ſave thy life: for thine own ſubjects have left thee, and reſuſed thy Government.* Thæon was ſo amazed & terrified with fear, & without regard of Lenons life he fled to ſave himſelf; every one, ſaving thoſe that fled with Thæon, running to their revolted fellows to ſave themſelves.

This news was brought to Allinuſ: who hearing the ſame, and being paſt fear of Thæons rage, ſent a Herald to Ternuſ, to know whether he were his friend, or ſtill continued thoſe bands, to reſiſt him as his foe: who returned this aſwer. *What he was never foe to him, but alwayes wiſht his good: afterwards diſmiſſing his ſouldiers, & ſending every one well rewarded to his own houſe; himſelf coming back to his Tent where he met Allinuſ, whom he kindly ſaluted. Thither were aſſembled the cheife States of the land; to whom Allinuſ, ſaid: My Lords, ſince Thæon and Lenon, are fled, and none left but your Honors in place of Juſtice, with right and equality to miniſter the ſame to ſuch as have ſuſtained wrong; I, as one that have abode the greateſt loſſe, commit my cauſe to your wiſdomes: You know, what injuries I have incur'd by his malice; onely, for that I ſought to ſet Arteſia at liberty, & was by Lenon imprifoned, and badly uſed: requeſting nothing of you, but that which by right is mine, and belongeth to me by inheritance. The Nobles with a generall aſſent granted, that he ſhould enjoy his former Poſſeſſions; and that his loſſe ſhould be repayed out of the Kings Treasuſr.*

The most pleasant History of

Ornatus standing by, said: *How noble Peers, you stand here debating matters, whilst the cause of your tow is living and far enough from yeelding to that you grant; who now peradventure is mustering new forces to make frustrate what you intend, and to work revenge: Which to prevent, give me your consents to pursue him; and he being once taken, then may you without control either establish him, or chuse a new, y^e should by right be your King.*

To this all the Nobles gave consent: and Ornatus, with three thousand horsemen, followed Thæon, who first took the green Jostresse, with five hundred men; who continued firm, won by great rewards: but hearing of the Armenians approach, under the conduct of the stranger that slew Lenon, in the night he fled, with a hundred of his nearest friends and allies, to Arbastus castle where he thought to live secure, and unknown, for that he thought his enemies would least of all suspect that place. He arrived there in the dead time of the night: but knocking, was denied entrance; which made him almost desperate, that he assayed to enter by force: and prevailed so that he got in with the rest of his company, making fast the gates again after them.

Artesiaes servants knowing what he was, some ran one way, some another, to hide themselves from him: one amongst the rest, came running into Artesiaes Chamber, declaring to her what had befallen & how that the King had taken the Castle. Artesia having not yet heard of Lenons death, nor what successe Ornatus had in the Camp wizing her hands made this lamentation: *Twice hath my deare Ornatus left me in this danger, and hazarded his own life, hoping to attain good successe; but cruell fortune hath still crossed his laudable attempts, and left both him & my poor self in extreame misery. Now am I assured he is taken prisoner again, and my self am like not long to go free; for I am sure the King hath heard of my being here, which maketh him come thus late: Alas, might I but be made prisoner in the same place my Ornatus lieth enthralled, that I might yet enjoy his sight, then should I think my self happy in misery: but I fear me too much, they will presently murder*

murder him, and never let me know thereof: whereby I shall be held with long frustrated hope to see him, and in the end be deceived. Never was poor Maiden brought to such miserie; nor I think true love never cross with such bitter aduersities which both he for me, & I for him, have been continually subjected unto ever since our first acquaintance. As she was still continuing her laments, the same servant (whose name was Thriftus) came running in again, saying: Dear Mistresse, I have found a means for your escape from hence, unespied, if you will attempt the same, which is without any danger at all. Never tell me what it is (quoth she) but be thou my guide and I will follow thee: for I will attempt any thing to escape from him. When (quoth he) fear nothing, but follow me. Then took he her by the hand, leading her out of that room into a dark entrie, where, by reason of the night, there appeared not the least glimpse of light; and through that into many back rooms and unfrequented places of the castle, until he came to a postern gate, which he opened and after he was out, shut the same fast again, saying: Now Mistresse, you are out of the Castle, and past fear of the King, who little knoweth you can passe out this way; therefore I pray tell me whether I shall conduct you? I thank thee good Thriftus (quoth she) for this the good assistance, for which I will one day be thankfull unto thee: and now I pray thee direct me to Adellenaes house, who is my faithful friend, and wil rather die than discover me. This said, they began their journey, which was but three miles, and therefore they soon overcame the same, even by the mornings light arriving at the wished place. Adellena hearing some knock at the gate, commanded her maid to rise, to see who it was: the Damzel coming down, before she would open the gate, asked who was there. Artefia knowing her voice, said: It is Artefia, good Anna let me in. With that the Damzel opened the gate, conducting her to her Mistresse chamber; who espying her, was so surprized with joy that she embracing her, shed abundance of tears, saying: Welcome my dear Artefia. I was afraid I should never have seen you again, you have been so long time absent. Indeed (quoth she) I have been long

The most pleasant History of

long absent from thee, but yet not far from thee; but I have newes of importance to tel thee, which I wil forbear to speak of until I have refreshed my self, for care & travel hath made me exceeding weary. When Adellena brought her into a sweet and pleasant chamber, where she laid her down to rest.

CHAP. XVI.

How Ornatus surprized Thæon in Arbastus Castle, who was slain by one of his own servants.



Ornatus hearing the king had taken the green foxstesse, beset the same round with hoxlemen: who took certain of the kings followers, that being brought before him, told him, the king was fled with some hundred in his company, to Arbastus Castle: which when he heard, without delay he rode thither fearing lest Thæon getting in, and finding Artesia, should offer her some injury.

He was no sooner come, but he found it so: for he was denied entrance, nor could see one of Artesias servants, whom he left as keepers of the sâe: which so much disquieted his heart, & he could not tel what to do, thinking it best to intreat Thæon kindly, lest he should seek revenge against Artesia. though she were innocent, and no way to be blamed for any thing: and such a multitude of contrarious fears arose in his fancies, that he seemed therewith metamorphosed. Which Phylastes soon perceived, and coming to him, said: How now Ornatus: what hath fear taken away your courage? O my friend Phylastes (quoth he) Thæon is within, and thereby possessor of Artesia; whose mind is so far from the least thought of vertue, that no doubt he will seek revenge on her. Fear not that (quoth he) but summon him to the walls by the sound of a Trumpet, & will him to yield himself, and stand to the curse of his Nobles: and promise him with safetie to conduct him thither. Ornatus allowed his counsell, and therefore commanded a trumpet to sound a parley: and thereupon one from the

the Herald appeared on the walls, demanding what he would have. To whom Ornatus said: Tell Thæon the King, that we come to him from the Wars of the Realm. The messenger told the King what he said: Whereupon Thæon came in sight demanding what he would have.

Quoth he, I would have you yeld, leass by resistance, you procure a greater mischief to your self, than is by us inteded. Suppose I should yeld (quoth he) how would you use me? Like a King (qd. Ornatus) honourably. I have found (qd he) so small cause to trust you, that it were fondnesse to put my life within compasse of your mercy: therefore: I will keep my self where I am; not doubting ere many dayes, to have so many friends, as shall both chase thee and the Armenians from the walls, and so out of this Country: which he spake, upon the confidence he had in certain friends, that had promised to gather new forces, but meant never to perform the same.

Ornatus was much troubled in mind, to think what was become of Artesia; marbelling that he spake not of her, nor could hear of any of her servants, that might give him knowledge how she fared. But seeing his fair words would not prevail, said: Thæon, since thou refusest the courteous proffer, I make thee, know, that my intent is altered, and since thou wilt not by fair means yeld, I will inforce thee to submit thy self to my mercy, or abide my rigour: for not all the friends thou canst find, shall shelter thee from my revenge: for I have sworn thy death, and nothing but that shall satisfie me. Which how I will once again reboke, if you will yeld without inforcement, and deliver me Artesia in safety: that is in that Case. Artesia (quoth Thæon) had I her in my custody, I would be revenged on her, because thou wishest her safety: but she is far enough from me; therefore thou seekest her in vain at my hands, who would as readily deliver her to thee, as thou couldest ask, for that I esteem her not. But of my self, it shall never be said, my mind would stoop to base submission, nor that a King yelded to a slave and base Vassall, as thou art. Dost thou think, that a royall mind can put on so degenerate a habite? No: I tell thee, whatsoever thou art, I had rather

The most pleasant History of

by inforcement to die than by submission liberty. But he then advised what thou doest, no; stay long before these walls; for there are so many whetting their swords, and putting on Armour in my defence, as ere the morning Sun arise, will scare thee from hence. Ornatus heart could not indure these braves and being with all vexed for fear that Artesia should sustaine some wrong, thought speedily to work revenge. Which by Phylastes counsell he remitted untill it were night, that then unawares they might by some means get entrance into the Castle, and so surprize them.

Ornatus thinking to walk alone by himself, to breath forth in sighs some part of the fear that posselt his heart: and with all, determining to view the Castle, how he might with convenienty get into the same without destroying it, for that it belonged to his beloved; he espied the Postern-gate: whereat thrusting, it presently flew open; which way as yet neither Thæon nor any of his company had found. Ornatus heart was glad he had found so good a means to accomplish his will, and putting the same too again, came to Phylastes and told him thereof. Then both of them presently agreed to enter that way and surprize them: conveying a hundred of the best soldiers secretly under the Wall unto that Postern, and placed the rest in the open view of the Castle, as if none of them had been wanting.

Ornatus and Phylastes entered and after them the rest: who passing along through the waile rooms, at last came to the place where they had left Artesia, but found her not: and such successe had they in their attempt, that Ornatus comming behind Thæon, smote him on the back with his hand, before he had any knowledge of his approach: Thæon therewith starting and looking back, was amazed: but running forward, drew out his sword crying: My friends, save and defend yourselves; whereat those that were about him drew their swords: To whom Ornatus said,

How now, usurping King, where are those mighty forces should drive me hence: will you yet yeeld, or stand to the trial by fight? I yeeld (qd. Thæon) but much against my will: for
had

Ornatus and Artesia.

had friends dealt faithfully. I had not been left in this misery. But since fortune so much favoureth thee, as to make me thy prisoner, use me well, for that I am a King, and to none but thy self am enthralled. *Tel me* (quoth *Ornatus*) what is become of *Artesia*, that not many dayes since I left in this place: I saue her not (quoth *Thæon*) noz know I where she is, onely I found certain serbants in this place, whom I have put to death, lest they should bewray my being here. *Tyrant* (qd. *Ornatus*) thinkest thou their deaths shall go unreuenged? couldest thou be so cruel as to murder those that were innocent; with whom, I fear me thou hast made away *Artesia*? *Why*, what art thou (quoth *Thæon*) that useth such undecent words to a King, that art thy self not worthy to speak to a King? and why makest thou such enquiry after *Artesia*, that for ought I know hath no interest in her? suppose I have slain her that was the cause of all this woe what canst thou challenge at my hands for her? it had been good she had never been born, for she onely hath been the originall of these troubles. Art thou a King (quoth *Ornatus*) and bearest so unkingly a mind as to slander true vertue? No: thou art a villain, a murderer, a Traitor to this Land, an usurper of the Crowne, and a most wicked and cruell homicide: but for that thou wouldest know what I am, know, that I have more interest to the Crowne then thou hast; my name *Ornatus*, and thy enemy, to whom by right that Crowne belongeth: which thou shalt no longer enjoy. Wherefore, said he, such as are my friends lay hold on this Traitor. He had no sooner spake those words, but *Thæon*s own serbants were the first that apprehended him, being weary of his government; and one amongst the rest, thinking that he had commanded them to slay him, and withall, hoping for reward for that forward exploit, having his sword ready drawn, suddenly (whilest *Ornatus* did but turn back to confer with *Phylastes*) thrust the same through *Thæon*s bodie that giuing a pittious groan, he gave up the Ghost. *Ornatus* turning back demanded who had done that deed: with that the murderer drew back, fearing to come befoze him, until he was com-
peld.

The most pleasant History of

To whom Ornatus said: What art thou, that hast done this deed? art thou not one of his servants: hast thou not been maintained by him: did he not trust thee with his life: was he not thy King: the how durst thou presume to strike thy master, being ingratefull to him that gave thee gifts, prove false to him who trusted thee, and slay thine anointed King? My Lord (qu. he) I did mistake your words, and hope to preserve my own life, made me to do that deed: which I thought would have pleased you. I am not (qu. he) sorry he is dead, but feare that thou dost wrong him, whom thou in all duty oughtest to have defended: for which thou shalt die a miserable death. When he commanded that he should be torn in pieces with horses: which befoze he departed thence, was performed.

C H A P. XVII.

How Ornatus was chosen King. How he departed unknown in search of Artesia. How Lenon sought again to betray him, but he was disappointed. How he was banished. Fioreus pardoned. And Ornatus and Artesia royally married.

The King dead, Ornatus with phylastes, returned to the Court, where all the Peeres were assembled, who befoze his coming, had by a voluntary messenger understood the manner of Thæons death the care whereof was already past, for that few or none at all loved him: but now their care was, whom to chuse as their King; but first they welcomed Ornatus, none of them all knowing him, nor once suspecting what he was: who now could find no other occasion to conceale himselfe; but humbling himself befoze Allinus, he said: My renowned Lord, the cause I have so long concealed my self, hath been for fear of the Kings cruelty, and Lenons envy, who both would have endangered me; but now being void of that misdoubt, your son Ornatus submitteth himself, humbly craving pardon for my neglect of duty. With that, hee unarmed his head, and his father knowing him, in most loving wise embraced him,

Ornatus and Artesia.

him, shedding tears for joy of his safety, whom he thought had been long since dead. Duke Ternus and the rest rejoiced to see him, and with embraces express their joy, entering into admiration of his honoured parts and noble chivalry. Phyllis being known, was much commended, whom they deemed had been murdered in the prison by Leonon, for that he could not be found. Allinus beholding Ornatus and with what valor he had behaved himself, rejoiced exceedingly: the Commons clapt their hands for joy: and the Peers amongst themselves began to relate, how virtuously valiantly, and prudently, he had behaved himself in all that he had undertaken. After many welcomes past, Ternus craving audience, stood up, uttering these speeches: *My Lords, we need not now defer giving Allinus his right, because there is none to contradict what we establish. Besides we being all now assembled together, and our late usurping King dead, there can be no fitter time to chuse a new King; and such a one, as by right of blood and our general consents may rule us. Theron you know was no way interested to the Crowne, but by usurpation, and hath rooted out almost all that he knew to have any title or interest in our late Kings blood; of which house, Allinus I Que is the last, by marriage of the Lady Aura, peere unto our late King therefore the right being in him, if there be any man in this Assembly, that can contradict that which I have said, let him speak. Which when he had said, he againe sat down. Upon his speeches the Nobles conferred, the people consulted, and at last the common souldiers cryed out, let Ornatus be our King, Ornatus is our King. The Nobles likewise gave consent to that the multitude liked, and Ornatus was chosen King, whom they would have crowned; but at his desire, they deferred the day of his Coronation for a moneth: in the mean time esteeming him as their King; and that day with great royalty, setting him in possession thereof.*

All businesse for that day being ended: the Armenians richly rewarded, feasted, & wth joy ready to return: Allinus in quiet, but for the want of his Lady, & all things in good order: Ornatus being alone by himself, indured much disquiet for Artesia mar-

The most pleasant History of

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The most pleasant History of

telling what was become of her: Sometimes thinking she was slain by Thæon, and then supposing she was escaped out at the Postern-gate which he found open: that in these contrarieties of doubts, he continued, sometimes despairing, and then again feeding himself with hope.

After Artelia had rested her self, and received some part of her sleep, she had lost that night, though but with broken slumbers; she began to declare to Adellena, what miseries she had endured, & troubles she had past since she was by Lenon carried from her house: how she met with Ornatus again, and every thing that was befallen with the cause of her flight. at that instant. But Adellena, said she, I fear me I shal never see him again: for had he not been taken, and his father overthrowen, Thæon could not have had so much leisure as to cōe to surprize me there: but \S heavens granted me a fortunate escape: And if I could be so happy, as to hear that Ornatus were in safety, though he had not that successe his desire did aim at, my heart would be at some rest, which is now pinched with suspicious torment.

His adventurous valiant heart could not be withdrawn by any perswasion to leave to aid his father; but notwithstanding infinit perils hung over his head, yet to shew the duty of a loving son, & \S mind of a vertuous valiant Gentleman, he would not desist to hazard his person which now I fear me is fallen into the hands of his enemies. But yet Phylastes I hope, will by his good & friendly counsel be a means to keep him from danger. Many other speeches Artelia used: and Adellena used as many on \S contrary part, to perswade her that Ornatus was in safety: the truth whereof, she told her, she should soone know: for (quoth she) I have set one of my servants to learn \S truth of all \S is hapned, who I know will shortly return. Which fell out even as she had told: for \S servant returned, bringing news of Lenons death, aded by a strange knight: & how \S Thæon was fled, & being likewise by the strange knight surprized in Arballus Castle, was slain by one of his own servants: which knight was now known to be Ornatus; and was elected King by the Peers; but he had deferred his day of Coronation by reason of
some

Ornatus and Artesia.

some special grief that troubled him. Artesias heart was re-
vived with these news: knowing þ grief Ornatus indured, was
for her absience that presently she determined to send him
word of her safety, and wrote a letter the contents whereof
were these.

MY dear *Ornatus*, no news could have come more welcome
to me, than your safety, and nothing more unwelcome than
to hear of your heaviness: which I would entreat you to cease, for
that I am in safety in *Adellenæs* house, being by one of my servants
the same night the K. took my Castle, through a postern-gate, in safety
brought hither: where I trust ere long to see you, which will reple-
nish my soul with exceeding comfort: for on your safety, my life
and felicity dependeth.

Yours for ever, *Artesia.*

Having wrote this Letter, she gave it to Thriftus, willing
him to deliver the same to Ornatus with all speed.

Destinies do allot many to exceeding misfortunes: & some
men are of that dishonourable and unmanly disposition, that
they account all means to attain their desires, lawfull; not
regarding the shame and perill will ensue thereon. Of which
nature was Lenon: who being conveyed from the Camp by his
friends, soon recovered, & kept in a secret place, lest he might
be known: having no other means but by absenting himself,
to save his life. Whose supposed death, caused Thæons flight
to the green Foyrestre: from whence likewise he was depar-
ted, before Lenon could come to give him knowledge of his
safety. And knowing, that it was too late to salve those mis-
eries he still concealed himself; following Ornatus (though
unknown to him) with intent to murther him, if he could by
any means take him at advantage: but he was still disappoint-
ed. And withall saw the death of his father done by his own
servant: still intermingling himself amongst þ soldiers, that
he was taken to be one of them, & never suspected. But Orna-
tus being returned to the Court, Lenon was then compelled
to leave to follow him, and harboured sometimes in one place,
and

The most pleasant History of

and sometime in another,¹ having knowledge of Artesiaes absence, he could not tell whether she were alive, or dead; but dead he thought she could not be, but rather by some meanes escaped. And even when Thriftus was newly come out of Adellenaes house, Lenon espied him, and knowing him to be one of Artesiaes servants, he suspected his Mistress was there; to whom he came, saying: My friend well met, I take you to be one of Artesiaes servants, unlesse I be deceived. Which if you will resolve me of, I will do a message to you, that I am willed to deliver to her from her dear friend Ornatus. Indeed, qd. Thriftus, I serve Artesia, and am now going to Ornatus with a letter from Artesia, who is in safety in Adellenaes house. Lenon hearing his speech, being before determined what to do, drew out his dagger; and suddenly stabbed him, casting his body into a pit; and taking the letter from him, brake up the seal, & read the contents: which when he had done, he began to study, which way to revenge himself on Ornatus and afterwards, to get Artesia into his possession; and for that he thought delay might hinder his intent, he first wrote a Letter in Artesiaes name, the contents were these.

O Ornatus, my dearest friend, the newes of your happy victory,¹ and conquest of your enemies, is come to my knowledge, than which nothing could have been more welcome unto me. Likewise I hear, that much heavinesse possesseth you for my absence, that am in safety: and desire you to meet me to morrow night, and you shall find me with *Adellena*, at the Lodge in the Park neer unto my Castle: In the mean time remitting all further report of my escape, and manifestation of my love, untill the happy time I may meet you.

Yours in all love, *Artesia*.

When he had written this Letter, and imitated therein Artesiaes own hand so near, that it could hardly be discerned he went to the Court and behaved the matter so cunningly, that he was no way suspected but was admitted into Phylastes presence; to whom he delivered the Letter: For Ornatus him

Ornatus and Artesia.

himself being exceedingly troubled in his mind, had left the Court, with some three in his company, to go in search of Artesia, & left Phylastes in his chamber, and in his stead to answer such as should come with any suits to him. Phylastes being taken for Ornatus of all, but of some that attended him, received the letter, promising to meet Artesia there at the same time appointed; giving the Messenger a reward. Lenon being departed, went to a place, where he found a certain kinsman of his, named Lucerus; to whom he declared both what he was, and what means he wrought for his revenge on Ornatus: who without respect, joined hands with him, and promised with many oaths to hazard his life in pursuit of revenge: who with Lenon concluded, before Ornatus coming, to be in the lodge, with a sufficient company to surprize him, and work the premeditated revenge. Lenon being assured of his aid, next determined to take Artesia from Adellenaes house, and to bring her to Lucerus Castle; untill the time appointed, staying with Lucerus, to see him depart with his ambush to the Lodge: which he saw effectually performed. Phylastes presently, upon the receipt of that letter, sent out a Messenger to seek Ornatus, and to certify him, that Artesia would meet him at the Lodge, with Adellena that evening, and that he should find Phylastes there: who (being by Artesiaes messenger taken for himself) had appointed to be there, lest he should not conveniently be found. The Messenger with great haste departed, and enquiring after four Pilgrims (for in that habite Ornatus, and such as were with him, went) by that time the day drew near to an end, the Messenger found Ornatus: to whom he declared what Phylastes had given him in charge, onely mistaking the place: for whereas he should, by his direction, have laid at the Lodge, mistaking Phylastes words, he said at Adellenaes house. Ornatus hearing that heavenly tidings, leapt for joy, presently hastening towards Adellenaes house, which was not far off. Lenon to further his attempt (which he thought he could not by violence execute: for he thought, if he should carry her away perforce in the day time, he should be prevented) devised an answer of the letter which he had taken from Thrifus, which

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The most pleasant History of

he determined to deliver to Artesia, as from Ornatus: the contents whereof were these.

MY most dear and beloved Artesia, I have received the Letter you sent me by your servant; whom I have imployed about a matter of great importance, that none could so fitly execute as himself: which newes was most welcome, to the comfort of my heart, that was almost overcome with despair of your safety, where on my chiefest felicity dependeth. Therefore omitting further recital of my joy for your safety, which this paper cannot expresse, therefore I will meet you soon, where this my servant will bring you: whose fidelity I assure you is such, as that he will do nothing but what I have given him in charge, until which time of meeting I cease all further circumstance of speeches,

Yours *ORNATUS.*

With this Letter Lenon went to Adellenaes house, and knocking at the gate, was brought to her, to whom he delivered the same: who reading the contents, and being before not well acquainted with Ornatus hand, nothing at all suspected the contrary; but both believed that it came from him, and determined to go with the Messenger to meet him: whilst she was preparing to go with Lenon, Adellenaes maid came in, telling her, that there was another to speak with her from Ornatus: with that, Lenon changed countenance, and Artesia willed her to bring him in. Ornatus beholding her, thought to have embraced her, & discovered himself; but seeing a stranger there, and a letter in her hand, he stood in a study.

Artesia noting well his countenance, thought it was Ornatus himself; but standing in some doubt thereof, said: I have received this letter from Ornatus already, & therefore if you have any further message from him, tel it me; for any newes from him shall be most welcome. Ornatus thought it was sent by Phylastes; but not knowing the messenger, marvelled thereat, saying: I cannot believe that it came from him: for whilst he is in this hour, he had not knowledge of your being here. With that, Artesia gave him the letter, willing him to read the same. Ornatus soon knew it was invented by some treachery, and there

Ornatus and Artesia.

therefore said: I know this comes not from Ornatus, for this is not his hand, nor he that brought it any of his servants; for himself sent me before, appointing to be here within this hour. Lenon hearing his speeches, with himself a thousand miles off, fearing to be discovered, for that he could not tell how to excuse himself nor by any colour avoid the danger. To whom Ornatus said: My friend, when did he deliver thee this Letter? Yesterday quoth he. Thou liest (said Ornatus) for he hath not been at the Court these three dayes. Lenon thinking with impudency to outface it having no other means left that was likely to help him, therefore said: This letter came from Ornatus, and thou liest in saying the contrary, being some Villain that art set to betray this Ladie: therefore (quoth he, speaking to Artesia) believe him not, for he is come with some evil intent. With that, Ornatus had those that were with him, lay hands on him: who presently apprehended him, and pulling off his hat, and subtil disguise that he wore, knew him to be Lenon, at the first, being half afraid to touch him: for that they would have sworn he had been dead.

Ornatus seeing Artesia in an exceeding sight, discovered himself, and with great joy embraced her, desiring her to fear nothing. Artesia knowing him, soon forgot her fear, embracing him with exceeding joy. To whom he said: Fear him not, my dear Artesia; for be it himself or his ghost, I care not: it shall go hard if he now escape my hands. To whom he said: Hast thou not been conceited and cowardly villain, couldst thou not be contented to live in quiet, having once escaped my fury, but thou must by further complots & trecheries seek to betray this Lady. I never did insure thee: How often hast thou interrupted her quiet, & from quietnesse brought her into misery: and knowing that she could not like thee yet thou wert so impudent as never to give over thy suit, but to attain thy desire, first deprived her of liberty, banished me in the disguise of Siluta, and soughtst to betray my fathers life: and not satisfied with all these, like a cowardly miscreant seeketh by villany to betray her: and now with, standing thou hast beheld thy fathers woful downfall, & meritorious punishment, thou seekst to betray this Ladies life by some

The most pleasant History of

unknown treachery, not yet revealed: For all which, thou shalt suffer punishment as I devised, and have power to execute. Lenon seeing himself discovered, grew desperate and scornning to be rebuked at his hands, whom he still esteemed his inferior; but especially bering that it was he, that had so long hindered his love to Artesia, said: Ornatus, I think thou hast either forgotten thy self, or else what I am, that at thy pleasure rebukest me in such uncivil and ill becoming terms.

Am I not thy better, & one that not long since might have commanded thee? and is thy mind so much elevated & proud, that thou wilt not acknowledge it? Thou makest brags of thy victory, when thou mayest rather in shame keep silence, & with remorse repent. & thou hast sought the death of thy lawfull king; being thy self but a traitor. As he would have spoke more, Ornatus interrupted him saying: Hold thy peace, & do not set in my mind to more sharp revenge by thy reply, for I scorne to hear thee speak; therefore give over, lest I punish that tongue of thine for uttering such high words in defence of vice. Since, (saith Lenon) thou wilt not hear me speak in defence of my self, let me be conveyed from thy presence, for thy sight is as odious to me, as mine to thee. Whilest they continued in Adellenaes house, a messenger came running in breathlesse, uttering these speeches: Behold, most worthy Ornatus, I bring thee a message of much woe, and heavy import. Yesterday, there was a messenger came to the Court, that brought a letter in Artesiaes name to Phylastes: who presently sent out a messenger, to give you knowledge thereof: but not hearing of his return, went himself, and some twenty in his company, to the place appointed: and entering, he found not Artesia there, but a crew of Rebels, amongst whom, Lucertus was chief, who all at once set upon him and his followers, taking him for your self: having so many, above the small number that were with Phylastes, that they had slain most of them that were with him: and himself not able to withstand such a multitude, had received many grievous wounds, and had been surely slain, but that the heavens sent them this aid.

Ornatus and Artesia.

It fortuned that day, that Duke Ternus was going from the Court to his own house: who by great fortune hearing the noise, with his men halted thitherwards: and having knowledge of what was done, both himself and his men set upon Lucertus, whom they soon vanquished, having first slain many of his complices: and him hath he carried prisoner, with the rest of such as were alive, unto the Court: and with them, Phylastes, in great danger of death. Ornatus heart was exceedingly vexed, to hear of his dear friend Phylastes hurt: but especially, to think, that he had not before attacked Lucertus, which he was once in mind to have done: which would have prevented all these mischiefs. The night now being come, Ornatus caused Lenon to be bound hand and foot, and put into a strong place of his house: with some to watch him lest he should do himself violence: himself, with Artesia, spending that Evening in many speeches, relating the manner of all these misfortunes: but especially comforting themselves in each others love. With Adellena, calling to remembrance the whole manner of their troubles, onely procured by Lenon: which sad relations, made the renewing of their love more pleasant and delectable.

Early the next morning, Ornatus putting himself in his palmyers weeds, & covering Artesiaes face with a veil, & carrying Lenon with them bound, departed towards the Court. The next morning, the Peers of the land being still there assembled themselves: amongst whom was Allinus; that likewise had found his Lady, who hearing of his happy success against Thæon, was that morning newly arrived at the Court. & by him entertained with exceeding joy. By that time they were assembled, & had called Lucertus before them, Ornatus, with his company were likewise come, though unknown, and standing by, heard Lucertus confesse, that Lenon had instigated him to seek that revenge against Ornatus; himself being likewise gone to betray Artesia. The whole assembly marvelled, when they heard him say, & Lenon perswaded him to it, that Allinus stood up saying: Is not he dead: then how can this be? Lenon (quoth Lucertus) is not dead. With that, Ornatus stepping in, thrust Lenon before him, and said: Here is the man that hath

The most pleasant History of

promoted him to do all this mischief. The Nobles beholding him were amazed at his sight : but being assured it was he, by the perfect knowledge they had of him, Ternus said : Lenon, I had alwayes thought thou hadst boyn the mind of a Gentleman, but now I find the contrary in thee, and that in the most shamefullst degree. What fury led thee to such mischievous attempts, as to hire Lucertus to slay Ornatus ; which he hath almost perfozmed : and thy self to seek the death or misery of that vertuous Lady, that hath already indured too much misery by thy folly :

Allinus had not as yet heard of Ornatus hurt ; nor any knew the contrary, but that Phylastes was he : for he, according to the mind of a most vertuous and constant friend, will concealed himself. For the Lady Aura had yet seen her son whom she had but heard of ; that Allinus said : Is my son Ornatus almost slain ? O traiterous villain ! With that Aura likewise began to make exceeding lamentation, which Ornatus was not able to behold : and therefore pulling off his disguised habite, humbly revered himself before them upon his knee. Both his Parents knew him, and with exceeding joy embraced him, shedding abundance of tears for his safety. With that Duke Ternus and all the rest came to him, using him with such behaviour, as belonged to him they had chosen King, seating him in an Imperial chair. He being thus set, said : My Noble Lords, I thank you, for intitling me with this exceeding Honour ; therefore my desire is, since you have elected me of your free and bounteous hearts, to be your King, let me this day, and instantly, be installed with possession of the Diadem, for that I have now no further cause of care, to cause me to defer the same : and likewise that I may give judgement against these most wicked Conspirators. The Nobles with joyfull hearts gave consent, and immediately crowned him, with bended knees doing him reverence.

Which done, Ornatus rising from his imperial Seat, came to Arctia, taking her by the hand, and leading her up to the Throne, seated her in the Chair, placing the Crown up

Ornatus and Artesia

on her head, saying: My Lords, as you have elected me your King, I pray likewise be contented with that I do, and make this your Queen; Then he pulled off the veil from Artesia's face, and her clear beauty appeared, to the admiration of all, who beholding the same, in humble sort did reverence her, making exceeding shouts for joy, their hearts being all glad of her safety. When this was done, she came down, and embraced them, feeling them many thanks; who all shewed such exceeding kindnesse, as exprest their hearty good wills, and rejoiced both her and Ornatus to behold: especially Aurora and Ternus his Dutchesse, who with many embracings, which they thought they could not sufficiently expresse, rejoiced to see her in that safety. By that time Ornatus was seated again, and Artesia by him. Phylastes hearing of Ornatus return, being though grievously wounded, yet in no great danger of death, as well as he could, came into the presence: where beholding Ornatus and Artesia crowned, kneeled down before them, his heart conceiving exceeding joy to behold that heavenly sight: whom Ornatus kindly embraced, rejoicing to see him in that good estate, after Artesia's salutation, willing him to sit down amongst them.

Then Ornatus first commanding Floretus to be sent for out of prison, thus said: How there resteth nothing, but to give sentence against these, that by conspiracies have been murderers, which fact is so hateful, that it maketh them odious both to God and man: in which offence both thou Lenon, Lucertus, and Floretus are guilty: therefore Lenon (quoth he) first declare what moved thee from time to time, to commit so many and grievous acts as thou hast done: Lenon's heart was dead with vexation, to see him crowned, and Artesia chosen his Queen, that hanging down his head he would not speak: but Lucertus humbling himself upon his knee, asked pardon.

By this time Floretus was brought in, looking with such a meager and pale countenance, by reason of his long imprisonment, that Artesia wept to behold him, and could not chuse but run and embrace him; upon her knee intreating Ornatus to pardon the offence he had committed which was against none but her self.

Ornatus

The most pleasant History of

Omatius seeing her kneel, suddenly caught her up : embracing Florent, and commanding his hands to be untied, with all saying : I not onely with a willing heart pardon you, but also give unto you for ever all those possessions that belonged unto your brother Arbastus. Florent, who expected nothing but death, was exceeding joyfull, and humbly upon his knees yielded many thanks.

When Omatius seating himself again, said : Because this day is the first of our reign, which should begin with mercy and not with rigour : there shall not a drop of blood by our command be spilt : and therefore Lenon, though thou hast deserved no labour, but a most miserable death, we pardon thee. And Lucertus, commanding thee upon pain of death, within ten dayes to depart this Land, for that we banish thee hence for ever, which down is too mercifull for thy fact. For thee Lenon, we onely banish thee this Court, where on pain of death let not thy foot, lest thy life ransom the presumptuous. This said, taking Attelia by the hand, he was by the people, with a noise of trumpets, and exceeding joy, conducted to a Chappel, and in royal sort that day married to Attelia : and from thence to an Imperial Feast, spending all that day in great pleasure, and at night taking lawfull delight in her love : both then, and during the time of both their lives, living in most pleasant, loving, and vertu-

ous sort, that most places of y world were filled with the report of their virtuous life, and peaceable Government.

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